جوردان تانمز يومية سياسية تمدر بالأنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية والرايء

BUDAPEST (AP) — A bomb exploded outside a bus carrying Soviet Jews emigrating to Israel was attacked at Budapest airport Monday. injuring two policemen and four passengers, the state news agency MTI reported. The bomb, apparently set off by remote control, wrecked a police car accompanying the bus, MTI said, quoting Interior Minister Peter Boros. The attack occurred at 9:40 a.m. (0840 GMT), MTI said, giving no further details. Jews emigrating from Soviet republies to Israel have used Budapest as a transit point for more than a year. Monday's reported attack was the first word of any assault on the Jews since the re-opening of Eastern European ties with Israel in the past two years allowed Soviet Jews to emigrate directly or through Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia. They previously passed through the Austrian capital of Vienna.

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Arafat in Alma Ata

MOSCOW (AP) - Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat arrived in the Kazakhstan capital of Aima Ata Monday, TASS reported. The Soviet news agency said Mr. Arafat's visit is part of his tour of Asian countries that includes China, Vietnam and Laos. TASS said Mr. Arafat was scheduled to meet Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev It gave no other details of his

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rises to 28

- Police Monday revised the death toll from the crash of a DC-3 plane, saying 28 people died. Authorities had said 27 people died in the crash Sunday near Heidelberg but the toll was increased when it was discovered there were more people aboard the plane than originally thought. There were four survivors. Authorities were investigating the cause of the crash. The plane was operated by Classic Wings, a company which provides "nostalgia" flights to aviation buffs.

rebel Kurds

ANKARA (R) — Turkish troops killed 11 separatist Kurdish rebels in a series of clashes in southeastern Turkey, the semi-official Anatolian news agency said Monday. It said the clashes with the guerrillas of the outlawed Kurdish Workers Party (PKK) took place in a mountainous area between Solhan town in Bingol and Kulp town in Divarbakir province during an operation which began on Saturday. Rebel sources said the 11 were killed when Turkish fighter planes bombed a guerrilla camp in the region on Saturday. More than 3,300 people have been killed since mid-1984 when the PKK labriched a campaign for an independent Kurdish state in southeast Turkey.

Egyptian held with stolen antiquities

tian Organisation of Antiquities places around the country.

Sudan, Ethiopia need 1.5m tonnes of food

27 per cent of the population will stili require help.

Aid flight turned DECK ILOW Mogadishu

NAIROBI (AP) — A Belgian air force transport plane carrying emergency aid to Somalia's embattled capital was forced to turn back Monday by fighting around the airport, aid officials said. Salch Dabbakeh of the United Children's Fund (UNICEF) m Nairobi described Monday's fighting in Mogadishu as the heaviest since November. "It is very intense with heavy shelling," he said, adding that forces loyal to President Ali Mahdi Mohammad were apparently trying to recapture the airport from troops of General Mohammad Farrah Aideed, chairman of the ruling United Somali Congress Party. | in 1942-1943.

Palestinians press U.S.

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinian peace negotiators pressed the United States Monday to step in and break the Middle East peace deadlock at the next round of Arab-Israeli negotiations in Washington.

"Although we feel that the American position practically serves the Israeli objectives, we believe that it is not too late for the U.S. to take a stand which would preserve the peace process," said Faisal Al Husseini, overall head of the Palestinian delegation.

"It is clear that Israel is trying to make the most from this (U.S.) position of non-intervention to stall and delay, in addition to its practices on the ground which all aim at stripping the peace process of its credibility," Mr. Husseini told reporters at an Arab East Jerusalem news conference.

The peace talks, jointly sponsored by Washington and Moscow, were launched on Oct. 30 with a formal opening ceremony followed by brief bilateral talks in Madrid.

The talks resumed in Washington but were adjourned last week after six days. Israel refused to accept the independent negotiating status of the Palestinians. But all parties have agreed to

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Prime

Minister Yitzhak Shamir Monday

showed his muscles when his

Likud bloc early Monday over-

whelmingly rejected an electoral

reform proposal that would lead

to direct election of the premier.

mittee of the right-wing Likud

was seen as a victory for the

76-year-old leader, who had

appealed to delegates to oppose

But a vote on a separate party

issue demonstrated that Foreign

Minister David Levy, the leading

moderate in Mr. Shamir's cabinet

on Arab-Israeli peace moves,

commands befty support in the

Mr. Levy has been at odds with

Mr. Shamir over the peace pro-

cess since it was revived by the

He suffered a humiliation last

October when Mr. Shamir de-

cided to lead the Israeli delegtion

to the Madrid peace conference,

political clout Sunday by muster-

ing a 53-per cent majority of

block passage of Likud's new

constitution. Mr. Levy argued

that the constitution was ill-

TEL AVIV (Agencies) - The

Israeli defence lawyer for con-

victed Nazi war criminal John

Demjanjuk Monday accused

Israel and the United States of a

"cold-blooded plot" to conceal

evidence that could prove his

Yoram Sheftel made the accusation

during a stormy 41/2-hour supreme

court hearing on Mr. Demjanjuk's

appeal of his conviction and death

sentence for being the camp guard

Mr. Sheftel's accusation, and the jus-

tices accused the defence lawyer of

over dramatising the 71-year-old De-

mjanjuk's appeal.

Mr. Demjanjuk, looking fit in

brown slacks and a sweater, smiled as

he entered the court, his hands hand-

cuffed in front. He told reporters "I

feel good today" and then was silent

Five justices heard Mr. Sheftel's

account of new evidence he submitted

in August, which he said U.S. offi-

cials and prosecutors had hidden from

Mr. Sheftel says the testimony from

more than 20 Ukrainian guards at the

Treblinka camp in Nazi-occupied Po-

land shows the notorious "Ivan the

Terrible" was not Mr. Demjanjuk but

another man named Ivan Marchenko.

worker from the Seven Hills suburb

of Cleveland, Ohio, was convicted in

April 1988 of being the guard Ivan

who operated gas chambers at Treb-

links, where \$50,000 people perished

Mr. Demjanjuk, a retired auto

Prosecutor Michael Shaked denied

known as "Ivan the Terrible.

client's innocence.

during the session."

the defence since 1978.

But Mr. Levy demonstrated his

effectively sidelining Mr. Levy.

United States last March.

the bill (see page 2)

Likud.

The vote by the central com-

return to Washington for a new round of talks opening on Jan. 7. Israel had insisted that Palesti-

nians and Jordanians take part as a joint delegation in talks on an interim period of self-rule for nearly two million Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied territories. Palestinians, referring to an

agreement with the United States, insisted they alone were entitled to talk with Israel about Palestinian issues while Jordan would discuss demarcation of their common border.

Their negotiations never left the corridors of the U.S. State Department.

"Attempting to neutralise the role of the co-sponsors is a violation of the agreement and is also a way in which the process turned into a biased approach in favour of Israel," delegation spokeswoman Hanan Ashrawi said.

Israeli Foreign Minister David

Levy told a parliamentary committee Monday he had proposed a compromise to the United States over the impasse on who would participate in talks on interim self-rule for Palestinians in the occupied territories.

Sources in the powerful foreign affairs and defence committee said Mr. Levy had proposed that all parties to the talks accept the

The vote to block electoral

The committee meeting was

closely watched here as a guide-

line to the balance of forces in

Likud. Israeli newspapers inter-

preted the results to mean Mr

Shamir, by defeating the electoral

reform, remains firmly in com-

mand, but that Mr. Levy can also

the government without Levy but

he can't run the Likud without

Levy. Levy has a veto," said in

Mr. Levy, who pressed the

government to enter peace talks

when Mr. Shamir was reluctant,

is one of the leading contenders

"Everybody eulogised my

camp. They said it didn't exist, it

was weakened, and here your

eyes see reality," Mr. Levy ex-

out of widespread protests over

the financial and political borset-

rading Mr. Shamir had to engage

in last year to woo half a dozen

small parties into his coalition.

The electoral reform issue rose

ulted after the vote.

to succeed the prime minister.

"It showed that Shamir can run

claim a power base.

reform was carried by 74 per cent

after more than 10-hour meet-

ing in Tel Aviv.

Shamir and Levy flex

their muscles in Likud

to act to avoid impasse principle of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation which will

> members that each committee will discuss issues relevant to it. the sources said. The Palestinian negotiators crossed from Jordan to the occupied West Bank on Sunday. They

Mr. Levy told parliament

later divide into committees.

described their talks with the Israelis as "exploratory meetings" and denied that they had Delegates accused Israel of

trying to torpedo peace talks by stalling during the Washington talks and by stepping up Jewish settlements in the occupied terri-

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir fired what commentators called the opening shots in the 1992 election campaign at a Likud meeting with a vehement attack on left-wing opponents who advocate giving back occupied territories in return for peace with the Arabs.

"The highest obligation with the highest priority which is now entrusted to the Likud... is to fight the political battle for the safeguarding, security and wholeness of the land of Israel," Mr. Shamir said in a speech late on

call for

strike

(AP) — An angry Mayor Elias Freij called Monday for residents of Bethlehem and neighbouring Christian towns to ignore Christmas Eve strike called by local Palestinian activists.

the Nativity are the focal points memorating the birth of Christ. talks in Madrid and Washington

issued his appeal after a leaflet signed by "the National Forces in Bethlehem" was circulated in the

The pamphlet called for shops and offices to close on Dec. 24, Christmas Eve for Latin Rite churches, and Jan. 6 when Orthodox Churches celebrate Christ-

Israeli military occupation" and "the pain and suffering of Iraqi children" following the Gulf war. The pamphlet, apparently from Bethlehem activists, contradicted calls by leaders of the Palestinian uprising and the Muslim fundamentalist Hamas, movement for shops and restaurants to stay open on Christmas Eve. Mr. Freij told Israel Radio that

Beirut body identified as Higgins'

BEIRUT (AP) — U.S. and U.N. officials positively identified the body of slain American hostage William R. Higgins Monday, the director of the American University Hospital (AUH) said.

The body, in a casket draped with the U.S. flag, was immediately driven out of the hospital's morgue in an ambulance escorted by two U.S. embassy cars. The convoy sped away in the direction of the embassy in the east Beirut suburb of Aukar. Hospital director Dr. Faisal Najjar

examined the body after coroner general Dr. Ahmad Harati performed a second examination of the corpse have reached positive identification." Among the U.N. officers who helped in the investigation were soldiers who knew Lieutenant-Colonel Higgins because they had worked under his command in the peacekeep-

said: "U.N. and U.S. officials who

ing observer group he headed. U.S. Ambassador Ryan Crocker earlier met with Interior Minister Sami Khatib, and the latter revealed that an anonymous caller who led

police officers to the body Saturday night had said the remains were those of Col. Higgins before hanging up. There was no immediate comment from U.S. officials in Beirut after Dr. Najjar made his announcement. A receptionist at the embassy said any statements would be made by Mr.

The Organisation of the Oppressed killed the 44-year-old Vietnam veteran to avenge Israel's abduction of a Shiite Muslim cleric.

available for several hours.

The body was found by a police patrol lying in a street in south Beirut, wrapped in a beige and blue wool blanket. The anonymous caller, Mr. Khatib said, told police that the body was dumped in Rweis street. The caller then hung up.

Dr. Harati, the coroner general, said the body had been "wrapped in cotton and bandages." in an attempt to preserve it. "From what I've seen of the neck, it looks like there was an attempt to embalm the body, but it was poorly done," he added. An AP reporter allowed into the

morgue briefly Sunday saw the body of the fair-skinned man lying in drawer. No. 3, covered with a wnite fleet. Much of the light hair was still in the head in a crew cut. The facial features appeared to be those of a Westerner. There were black stains around the neck, and a morgue attendant said these were blood stains. Crocker, and that he would be un-

Col. Higgins was kidnapped Feb. 17, 1988 near Tyre, 80 kilometres south of Beirut. He headed the U.N. Truce Supervisory Organisation, a 76-man observer force that monitors the Lebanese-Israeli border.

The return of Col. Higgins' body was another successful step in the hostage negotiations of U.N. envoy Giandomenico Picco, who returned to the region last week. The envoy has won the release of

all American and British hostages in Lebanon since August. The last American captive, journalist Terry Anderson, was freed Dec. 4 after more than 61/2 years in captivity. Two Germans, Heinrich Struebig and Thomas Kemptner, still are being

(Continued on page 5)

Iraqi families face bleak Christmas under sanctions

BAGHDAD (R) — "Anything." says 12-year-old Zafaran when asked what he wants for Christ-

But his parents are having enough trouble putting food on the table in the tiny room they share with Zafaran and their four other children.

This Christmas, just like their first under U.N. sanctions, there will be no presents under a small plastic tree.

"My brother used to give the children gifts but now nobody has any money," said Zafaran's 49year-old father, who earns 180 dinars a month as a labourer.

That is \$18 on the black market and \$550 at universally discredited official rates. Rent in a crumbling house shared with four other families is \$7, leaving them only enough for a few kiles of stringy meat.

Before Irao's August 1990 invasion of Kuwait, 180 dinars covered the family's monthly expenses. But the U.N.-enforced prices skyrocketing. Zafaran and his family live in

the teeming, mainly Christian

working-class neighbourhood of Battaween, which was once one of Baghdad's most exclusive areas. Unofficial sources estimate that about 700,000 of Iraq's 18 million people are Christians. Despite the December cold

children walk barefoot among the rubbish-strewn streets. A blackrobed young woman with the face of a Madonna sits on the pavement selling eggs few can afford.

Zafaran's mother has hung statues and portraits of the Virgin Mary above the one bed in a room heated only by a kerosene lamp. She says her children have not had new clothes for a year.

"We have saved two chickens from our rations for dinner on Christmas." Zafaran told Reuters as he spoke of feasts, new clothes and visits to relatives when he

was younger. The limited rations of flour,

economic isolation of Iraq sent sugar and other staples which the government distributes to every Iraqi resident are keeping people alive but not well. The United Nations says the

death rate for children under five

has doubled since before the Gulf war over Kuwait. Some say Iraqi figures that 80,000 children have died of hunger and disease may be accurate. The cash-starved Iraqi government has rejected as inadequate

U.N. proposals to allow it to sell oil for food and medicine. It is pressing for countries to unfreeze billions of dollars of its assets to allow it to buy supplies. "Definitely the situation is get-

ting worse," said Douglas Broderick, whose Catholic Relief Services feed 100,000 people in

"The frightening thing is that more and more people are coming to us for food — people aren' ashamed any more to come and stand in a bread line for two or three hours."

Arabs to fight land seizure

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli Arabs whose land was confiscated to make room for a Jewish town said Monday they failed to work out a compromise with the government and would fight in court.

The 17 bedouin families live on 25 acres in a small village called Ramya. The Israeli government does not recognise Ramya and says it is part of the Jewish development town of Carmiel. The land was confiscated in 1976, but the bedouins were not ordered out until last summer when Carmiel officials said they needed the land to house Soviet

Jewish immigrants. The case has become a rallying point for Israel's 890,000 Arab citizens who fear they will lose jobs and land as a result of the massive Jewish immigration wave from the Soviet Union.

"The issue is ... asking one group of people, Arabs, to evacuate to put in another group of people, who are Jewish, in their place," Stephen Langfur, an Israeli who formed a committee to help the bedouins, told a news conference Monday.

But the government said it offered compensation of 20,000 shekels (\$8,330) per acre and one-eighth of an acre of land in a neighbouring Arab village for each of the 17 families.

"We made them a generous offer even though legally, they are not entitled to anything," said Amikam Shapira, spokesman of the land authority. The government argues that the bedouins settled in Ramya "illegally." Ramya's residents say the vil-

lage was a traditional bedouin camp where they moved permanently in the 1960s when they ended their nomadic ways. It is one of 120 Arab villages that Israel wants to shut down-

The bedouins of Ramva took the dispute to Israel's supreme court, and in November the court ordered both sides to negotiate a settlement.

Baghdad invites Kurds to discuss blockade stressed the unity of the Iraqi

SALAHUDDIN, Iraq (R) Kurdish leaders said Monday the Iraqi government had invited them to Baghdad to discuss its two-month economic blockade of

northern Iraq. Sources at Massoud Barzani's Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) headquarters said the invitation came in response to a letter from Mr. Barzani saying Kurdish leaders had agreed to guarantee the safety of government employees in Kurdistan, an Iraci condition for lifting the

They said Mr. Barzani received the invitation late last week. Ten days ago, when Kurdish leaders voted to guarantee the safety of government employees, they set Dec. 23 as the deadline for Baghdad to lift the blockade. The deadline arrived with no evidence of Iragi compliance. Salaries of most government

employees in Kurdistan have not

been paid by Baghdad and fuel and food deliveries have been

Price increases of 300 per cent for some food staples and severe fuel shortages are bringing real hardship to the poor. Better-off Kurds have been inconvenienced but a booming black market has developed to meet their needs. Kurdish leaders visited Baghdad last month but failed to get

the blockade lifted. Advisors to Mr. Barzani said he was not likely to go to Baghdad himself this time but could send a representative.

Mr. Barzani's chief political rival, Jalai Talabani, who heads the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan. told Reuters last wek he had no plans to go the Baghdad to disccass anything. Mr. Barzani and Mr. Talabani

have been at odds over the merits of a draft autonomy agreement the KDP chief brought back from

Baghdad in August. Kurds say the government blockade seems intended to pressure them into signing the agreement.

Hakim presents plan

Iragi Shirte opposition leader Ayatollah Mohammad Bager Al Hakim said Monday he had invited leading dissidents to Damascus this week to discuss ousting President Saddam Hus-

"All elements of detonation are available in Iraq, they need only the trigger," Sheikh Hakim, leader of the Tehran-based Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq (SCIRI), told a

news conference. SCIRI played a major role in a failed rebellion against the gov-

ernment in southern Iraq last March.

Sheikh Hakim said his plan

people and territory and sought to activate opposition within the ranks of the army and establish political pluralism. "Some of the opposition lead-

ers have already arrived here and

others are expected today and tomorrow," Sheikh Hakim said. Those invited to the talks included representatives of the Kurdish groups who staged a parallel revolt in northern Iraq in March and control much of the

Iraqi Kurdish region. Mr. Talabani last week called for the overthrow of President Saddam and said he and other opposition groups were working together to topple the Iraqi presi-

More than 60 Iraqi opposition groups seek President Saddam's fall but ethnic, religious and ideological differences divide

Jordan seeks its water rights from Mideast peace talks

By Rana Sabbagh

AMMAN Parched Jordan hopes Middle East peace talks will provide an opportunity to settle longdisputed water rights with its neighbours on the Jordan River basin, officials said

Monday. Arab states, including Jordan, are due to hold multilateral talks with Israel in Moscow at the end of January and water will be high on the agenda.

Jordanian officials say a 1955 plan drawn up by former U.S. envoy Eric Johnston on the exploitation of the Jordan River tributaries by Jordan, Lebanon, Israel and Syria should be a starting point in any future talks on water sharing.

"We are talking about water rights to sustain agricultural practices, industrial and domestic needs in Jordan and

a clean environment." Water Minister Samir Kawar told Reuters when asked how much water his country hoped to get from a peace

"We are talking about

basic rights. What it takes we

calculate later." he said. Jordan says it is facing a severe water crisis due to drought, a population boom. the needs of farmers and the actions of water-hungry neighbours Syria and Israel. Both countries border Jordan along the Yarmouk River, a 40-kilometre tributary of the River Jordan that is a major source of the country's

Although the pact was never formally signed by Israel and Arab countries which with it was officially at war, the water quotas in the U.S.brokered Johnston agreement were initially honoured. On paper, it gives Jordan year, 220 million cubic metres for the West Bank subsequently seized by Israel in the 1967 war, 567 million cubic metres for Israel, 132 million cubic metres for Syria and 35 million cubic metres for Lebanon.

500 million cubic metres a

But Jordan says it is not getting its share. "We are getting 120 mil-

lion cubic metres per annum from the Yarmouk River," Mr. Kawar said. The rest is drawn from rain dependant wadis and artesian wells. Syria is taking up to 170 million cubic metres a year and Israel is consuming at

least 737 million cubic metres, other water officials Jordan, whose population is growing at 3.8 per cent a

year, is consuming 750 million cubic metres a year — it had to absorb a sudden influx of 300,000 Jordanians who fled Kuwait and other neighbouring states during the 1990 Gulf crisis.

Mr. Kawar said he expected a water shortage of 60 million cubic metres in 1992 for municipal and industrial use, compared to this year's deficit of 35 million cubic metres.

wards and providing water will also become more costly, officials say. "The only way to cover this

This shortage is expected

to escalate from 1993 on-

shortage is by having more share of the Yarmouk River," Mr. Kawar said.

The river flows from Syria, along the border with Jordan. and the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights, and runs briefly between Jordan and Israel before bending southwest to join the Jordan River.

Mr. Kawar said Amman was also looking into the possibility of drawing water

from its underground aguifers at Al Dissi in the south, near the border with Saudi Arabia. Desalination of sea water

was not viable in Jordan because the country has no sources of cheap energy. Jordan and Syria signed a landmark agreement in September 1987 to build a

\$330-million dam on their frontier to irrigate the Jordan Valley and generate hydroelectric power for Syria. But complications, including Israel's protests, blocked World Bank financing of the

long-delayed plan and vast tracts of potentially-rich farmland in the Jordan Valley remain unwatered. Arab-Israeli wrangles over

water sharing and political tension with Syria have killed successive projects to dam the Yarmouk, which experts say is the only remaining uncontrolled water resource in the basin.

German air crash toll

HEIDELBERG, Germany (AP)

Turkish troops kill 11

CAIRO (R) — A jeweller from Alexandria has been arrested on charges of possessing 3,158 stolen antiquities dating from the Pharaonic, Roman, and Islamic periods, security sources said Monday. They said the pieces, including statues, heads of statues, gold and silver amulets, textiles and stone weapons, appeared on records at the Egypand had been stolen from various

NAIROBI (AP) - Ethiopia and Sudan will need more than 1.5 million tonnes of food aid in 1992 despite above average harvests this year, a U.N. agency said Monday. The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) said 6.1 million drought victims, displaced people and demobilised soldiers and their families in Ethiopia will need 880,000 tonnes of emergency food. In Sudan, the agency said, 662,000 tonnes of food will be needed to help feed 7.1 million victims of drought, war and natural calamities. The **FAO** forecast 1991-92 production of major cereals in Sudan at 3.8 million tonnes, 1.8 million tonnes more than in 1990-91. But it said

Demjanjuk accuses Israel, U.S. of cold-blooded plot

He was sentenced to death for

crimes against humanity and crimes

against the Jewish people. He appealed in 1989. Mr. Demjanjuk insists he was victim of mistaken identity and was at a prisoner of war camp elsewhere in Poland during the period in question. Mr. Sheftel says evidence taken from other Treblinka guards by Soviet authorities during the 1940s through 1960s shores up the claim. He submitted the evidence in Au-

1978 but concealed it. "It turns out we were not dealing with a problem of mistaken identity, but a step by step plot for more than 13 years," Mr. Sheftel said. He also accused anthorities in the

United States of "deceit and des-

gust and alleged that prosecutors had

access to the material as far back as

troying evidence, all in a coldblooded plot." The United States extradited Mr. Demjanjuk for trial in Israel in 1986, after stripping him of American citizenship in 1981. Mr. Sheftel argued that the U.S. Justice Department had ignored testimony it had at the time from the other Treblinka

Mr. Sheftel, in an ironic twist, compared the Demjanjuk trial to the Dreyfus affair, the conviction of a Jewish officer in the French army in the 1890s on treason charges later found to false and motivated by anti-

Controversy over the case lead

Theodor Herzi, an Austrian Jew, to

found Zionism, the ideology that led

to the creation of Israel.

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM Bethlehem and its Church of

of annual celebrations com-Mr. Freij, a Christian who was a Palestinian delegate at peace

It cited the suffering of Palestinians 'from the oppression of

(Continued on page 5)

Algeria poised between ideals of Islamic state and Democracy

ALGIERS (R) — Algeria Monday wound up an electoral campaign many thought would never take place, its leaders urging the 25 million people to secure democracy as a way of life at general elections on Thursday.

At stake in the country's first free general election appears the choice between a fundamentalist Islamic state or a multi-party parliament driving a liberal society with a free-market economy.

It is a poll where cabinet members and Prime Minister Sidahmad Ghozali are not seeking seats although some diplomats suggest Mr. Ghozali could be at least temporarily recalled by the president if no party emerged clear winner.

Local rather than party loyalties in small communities could also dictate the outcome.

Calling for a massive turnout. the cabinet said after a weekend meeting: "If Algerian men and women vote, Algeria will be the main winner, an Algeria of democracy and liberties."

Scheduled for June, the election was put off after militants of the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), the main opposition party, clashed with security forces and 55 people died.

The FIS demands a state ruled by Islamic law. Its militants demanded it there and then, without a vote.

Thursday's vote is across a country more than four times the size of France, its ex-colonial tuler across the Mediterranean.

TEL AVIV (AP) — Prime Minis-

ter Yitzhak Shamir's Likud bloc

early Monday overwhelmingly re-

jected an electoral reform prop-

osal that would lead to direct

of the right-wing Likud was seen

as a victory for the 76-year-old

leader, who appealed to dele-

It was not clear if the Likud

legislators would be bound by

their cental committee's vote

when the electoral reform plan

comes before the Knesset, or

parliament, a key question for

reform proposal would not im-

prove the government but would

lessen chances of Likud's return-

ing to power in elections sche-

Mr. Shamir's leadership of the

right-wing party, including Hous-

ing Minister Ariel Sharon and

Foreign Minister David Levy,

supported the move to elect the

prime minister in a direct, public

Mr. Shamir would beat Labour

Party leader Shimon Peres in

such an election. But Mr. Peres is

being challenged by former De-

KHARTOUM (AP) — Govern-

ments of the Horn of Africa are

being summoned to discuss the

care and welfare of two million

refugees in the region, a

The conference's consponsors,

Sudanese official said Monday.

Sudan and Ethiopia, face similar

hardships, wretched poverty in

their own right and a mandate

from the world to give a decent

life to hundreds of thousands of

ambassador to Ethiopia, said

Somalia, Djibouti, Kenya and the

interim government of Eritrea

are being invited to the confer-

ence. International relief orga-

nisations from the United Na-

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

Osman Al Sayed, Sudan's

ontsiders.

Recent polls have shown that

Several potential challengers to

Mr. Shamir had argued the

The vote by central committee

election of the premier.

gates to oppose the bill.

success of the plan.

duled next November.

Likud votes against

reform in elections

Like Algeria's neighbours Tunisia and Morocco, which see the experiment as an aberration, the outcome is being carefully watched in France, home to around one million Algerians.

Forty nine parties are taking part, from among 58 registered in the last three years of hectic reform introduced by President Chadli Benjedid after riots in

But the poll for a 430-seat, five-year assembly is dominated by two — the FIS and the National Liberation Front (FLN) whose traditional supporters fought an eight-year war for independence and which ruled a one-party state for nearly three decades.

The FLN sees itself as champion of continued reform and unity, and has already urged a post-poll coalition government. "It's an election for or against

Islamic fundamentalism," one Western diplomat said. The 31,901 voting booths, including 556 mobile posts, open at 8 a.m. Dec. 26 and close at 7

p.m., although local officials can vary the hours to help the poll. Results are expected to start arriving overnight, with the Constitutional Council making a definitive statement after the Jan. 16 second round. This is for areas where no candidate gained an outright majority. In a dead heat

oldest candidate. The 13.3 million electors have a choice of 5.712 candidates, including some 1,000 independents.

fence Minister Yitzhak Rabin,

and polls indicate Mr. Shamir

system, the head of the party

capable of forming a coalition is

A grassroots electoral reform

movement sprang up in Israel

following much publicised offers

of political jobs and funds for

small, religious parties to join a

coalition government after inde-

rejected the electoral reform bill

by 74 per cent to 26 per cent early

Monday after a more than 10-

hour meeting in Tel Aviv, the

daily Yedioth Ahronoth -re-

The question of imposing

Likud Party discipline against

electoral reform is likely to be the

decisive factor in whether a bill

Likud has 37 of the 120 par-

liamentary seats and the backing

of at least a dozen members from

nationalist and religious parties.

Labour, which has 38 seats,

already has instructed its mem-

Likud in the Knesset will certain-

ly have to weigh very hard the

tions and elsewhere as well as

Western donors also are being

Mr. Sayed said the conference

will be in the Ethiopian capital

Addis Ababa in late January or

early February. He said the aim is

to "work out a long-term plan for

resolving problems of refugees

and displacement in the region."

organise the conference at meet-

ings of government ministers held

There are about two million re-

fugees in the Horn of Africa.

Civil war and famine have dis-

placed some in their own coun-

tries or to flee to neighbouring

states. Most are Ethiopian,

Sudan and Ethiopa agreed to

"Every representative of the

decision accepted by the majority bers.

bers of vote for reform.

Sudan, Ethiopia get together on refugees

invited, he said.

in Khartoum.

The Likud central committee

Under Israel's present election

would lose to Mr. Rabin.

named prime minister.

cisive 1990 elections.

passes the Knesset.

on Jan. 16, the seat goes to the

Fifty-seven women are standing. Few will forcast the poll outcome. Western diplomats see the FIS probably emerging as the biggest party but without an overall majority.

The FLN is seen as a solid runner-up, with the Socialist Forces Front, led by veteran independence fighter Hocine Ait Ahmad, as a likely third force, followed by a few others.

Mr. Ghozali, appointed to get elections back on track, and asked for his forecast recently, said: "I don't know. It seems to me that no one can suggest a score. But I am sure that no party will gain a majority of 51 per

Cabinet members are not standing for election, although President Benjeded is not bound to select a new prime minister from any particular party.

The FIS which has shown itself well organised was holding a final mass rally in Algiers on Monday in the July 5 stadium it usually fills with bussed-in supporters.

Some other leaders have complained of their meetings being disrupted by bearded militants, and newspapers reported the appearance of forged ballot papers in one area, with a cross by the FIS candidate's name.

The government has promised "fair and clean" elections, backed itself with tough new laws to control any unrest, and says its security measures will ensure the vote goes smoothly.

Yitzhak Shamir

after the vote.

in the central committee and act

accordingly," Police Minister

Roni Milo, a Shamir ally, said

are scheduled Nov. 3, 1992. But

the vote could be held sooner if

Mr. Shamir's cabinet collapses

amid division over the Middle

East peace process or a dispute

over allocation of government

member of Mr. Shamir's coalition

with two parliamentary seats,

said Monday it may pull out of

government if Likud legislators

are not allowed to vote according

Mr. Shamir's coalition, which has

the backing of 66 Knesset mem-

The move would not topple

Sudan has been hosting about

850,000 Ethiopians for years.

Last spring, the overthrow of

Mengistu Haile Mariam's govern-

ment in Addis Ababa sent

another 30,000-60,000, mostly

Ethiopian army soldiers, flooding

into eastern Sudan. Most of the

former soldiers have been volun-

tarily repatriated to Ethiopia by

the office of the U.N. High Com-

prime minsiter, appeared on

Sudanese state television Sunday

night to urge all Ethiopians in

Sudan to return home, "for parti-

cipation in national reconstruc-

Tamrat Layne, Ethiopia's

missioner for Refugees.

to their conscience.

Somali or Sudanese.

The far-right Tzomet Party, a

funds to religious institutions.

Israel's next national elections



Members of 'Kahane Chai' demonstrate outside the U.S. consulate in Arab East Jerusalem after the acquittal of Al Sayyid Nosair in the murder trial of Meir Kahane

Militant Jews demand new trial for Nosair

NEW YORK (R) — Militant Jewish groups called for revenge Sunday after an Egyptian-born Muslim was acquitted of murdering radical rabbi Meir Kahane.

"I never expected justice from an American court ... on this day, we the people of Kahane Chai promise the revenge of the blood of rabbi Meir Kahane," said a statement by Kahane's son, Binyamin, who heads the Kahane Chai, a group dedicated to his father's work.

Al Sayyid Nosair, 36, was acquitted late Saturday night on the murder charge by a New York jury. But he was found guilty of assault, coercion and weapons charges.

He faces up to 21 years in prison when he is sentenced by New York Supreme Court Judge Alvin Schlesinger on

Kahane, 58, founded the Jewish Defence League (JDL) in 1968 in the United States. He founded the Kach Party and was elected to the Israeli Knesset in 1984. He was considered a force in Israeli politics until Kach was banned in 1988 | | because of its undemocratic

The Jewish Defence Organisation, a splinter group of Kahan'e JDL, in a statement issued Sunday, called for federal charges to be filed against Mr. Nosair.

"We are demanding federal civil rights charges ... this week is being called the week of outrage," said the statement.

U.S. federal law provides for prosecutors to bring charges of civil rights violations in some killing cases.

New York state assemblyman Dov Hikind whose Brooklyn district includes the largest number of orthodox Jews in the United States charged that prosecutors bungled the case against Mr. Nosair.

"It was the greatest mishandling of a serious crime," Mr. Hikind said.

He planned to meet with Senator Alfonse D'Amato, a New York Democrat, and others to ask the Justice Department to investigate any possible violations of the federal civil rights legislation.

Mr. Nosair, who was born in Port Fouad, Egypt, a small city north of Port Said, came to the United States from Egypt in 1981 and became a citizen in

Right-wing Jewish groups have threatened to march on homes of jurors' who found Mr. Nosair not guilty.

"It sounded to me like an open-and-shut case, and the defence sounded laughably amateurish," said Alan Dershowitz, an attorney and author of "Chutzpah," a book about anti-Semitism in the United States.

M.T. Mehdi, president of the American-Arab Relations Committee, applauded the verdict.

"There was no single person who had indeed seen the shooting," Mr. Mehdi said. Mr. Nosair was convicted of four lesser charges: Weapons

possession, commandeering a taxi at gunpoint and two assault counts. Defence attornev William Kunstler said he would appeal those convic-"I find the verdict somewhat

bizarre," said Abraham Foxman, who heads the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, which did not support Kahane's extreme anti-Arab

"If they found him innocent. that's one thing. But to find him guilty of lesser charges, raises questions," Mr. Foxman

During the five-week trial, witnesses testified they saw Mr. Nosair run from the room with a gun in his hand after Kahane was shot. Two people shot as Mr. Nosair fled - an elderly man and a postal police officer - identified him as the man who shot them.

But defence lawyers successfully argued that no one actually saw Mr. Nosair kill Kahane. and that no evidence directly linked him to the killing. They said Mr. Nosair was running because he was being chased by armed Kahane followers, and it was one of them, firing at Mr. Nosair, who shot the officer.

The defence argued that Mr. Nosair was framed by Kahane followers who killed him in a dispute over money.

Avi Weiss, an activist New York City rabbi, said he disagreed with Kahane's views. "But I am just absolutely stunned and shocked by the verdict," he said.

Members of the militant Jewish Defence League and militants from several other extremist Jewish groups threatened to march on jurors' homes.

Israel gets Soviet ambassador for 9 days

TEL AVIV (AP) - Amid customary diplomatic pomp, the first Soviet ambassador to Israel in 24 years presented his credentials Monday to President Chaim Herzog. But in nine days he will become the ambassador of Russia.

Despite the dismantling of the Soviet Union, an honour guard played the Soviet anthem and the red hammer and sickle flag was hoisted as Ambassador Alexander Bovin was received at Mr. Herzog's residence.

"Perhaps fate has willed that it should take place here in Jerusalem, the last time that the Soviet flag is raised and the Soviet national anthem is played on a state occasion," Mr. Herzog

Bulgaria

Mideast

said Monday.

Mubarak.

multilaterals

CAIRO (AP) — Bulgaria is will-

ing to host Mideast multilateral

talks in case they cannot be held

as scheduled in Moscow Jan. 28-

29, Bulgaria's foreign minister

Stoyan Ganev spoke to repor-

"We wish to improve and sup-

ters after relaying the Bulgarian

proposal to President Hosni

port our relations with Arab

countries and we are interested in

the peace efforts in the Middle

"I relayed to President Mubar-

ak Bulgaria's proposal to host the

multilateral talks between Israel

and the Arabs which had been

scheduled to be held in Moscow

Jan. 28, 29," he said, adding he

will repeat the offer in other Arab

Mr. Genev also invited Mr.

A commonwealth has replaced

the old Soviet Union and it will

likely honour the invitation for

some 32 countries to participate

in multilateral Mideast peace

Amr Musa, Egypt's foreign

minister who attended Ganev's

meeting with Mr. Mubarak, said

that several countries have

offered to host the multilateral

talks in case the new common-

"According to scheduled dates,

the bilateral talks will be held in

Washington and the multilaterals

in Moscow. In case the situation

changes, all the parties have to

agree on where to hold the talks,"

Mr. Musa said when asked about

the Bulgarian offer to host the

The United States and the

Soviet Union co-sponsored the

Oct. 30-Nov. 1 Mideast peace

conference in Madrid. The first

round of bilateral talks between

Israel and Arab countries was

held in Madrid and the second

round ended in Washington last

week. The third round of bilater-

al talks is scheduled for Jan. 7 in

As co-sponsor, Moscow was

chosen as the site for the multi-

lateral talks which will include

some 32 countries from the Mid-

dle East and Europe and will

discuss a wider range of issues

like nuclear disarmament in the

Mr. Musa said Egypt was close-

ly following the developments in

the new commonwealth. Egypt's

ambassador to Moscow, Ahmad

Maher, was summoned to Cairo

and also met with Mr. Mubarak

to discuss the situation and how

Egypt will respond to it.

region and water resources.

Washington.

wealth is unable to do so.

talks next month.

countries he plans to visit.

Mubarak to visit Bulgaria.

East," Mr. Ganev said.

Israel in October after breaking formal links the 1967 Middle East

Mr. Herzog denied Monday's ceremony had a touch of the absurd, saying it was simpler for Mr. Bovin's title to be automatically changed in January than start the procedure of establishing ties with Russia's new

foreign office. Mr. Bovin did not speak to reporters, but an announcement from Mr. Herzog's office said that the new ambassador would become the ambassador of Russia on Jan. 1.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin has announced his republic would take over the diplomatic corps of the disintergating Soviet

Moscow renewed ties with Union. Mr. Bovin was appointed by Soviet President Mikhail Gor-

Mr. Herzog told reporters after the ceremony that he feit Israel was owed a renewal of ties after its treatment by the Soviet Union, which was the backer of

Arab states for decades. "In many ways it is some small recompense to what we went through at the hands of the Soviet government over many, many years," he said. "A debt is being?" paid back to Israel. There is some justice in the world, and we felt it

Also attending the ceremony was Yosef Govrin, who was Israel's ambassador to Moscow when diplomatic ties were cut.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Tank fire hits Irish outpost in Lebanon

TYRE (AP) — A tank round fired from a position manned jointly by Israeli troops and allied militiamen struck the Irish battalion's command post in South Lebanon Monday, United Nations spokesman Timur Goksel said. There were no casualties among the peacekeepers. The Irish troops are among 5,200 soldiers from nine nations making up the U.N. Interim Force In Lebanon (UNIFIL). Mr. Goksel said a second round hit a house, 30 metres away from the post in Tiri, also causing no casualties. He said the firing occurred at 1 a.m. (2300 GMT). He said the fire came from a post in Saff Al Hawa controlled jointly by Israeli troops and militiamen of the South Lebanon Army in Israel's self-proclaimed "security

\$2.1 million sent to Palestinians

RIYADH (AP) — Donations amounting to 8.32 million rivals [(\$2.1 million) were transferred to Palestinians in the Israelioccupied territories on Sunday. Abdul Rehim Gamous, director of popular Palestinian committees that raise these funds, said the money represented the third instalment for 1991. He told reporters it brought the total of such transfers for the year to \$14 million. The committees collect taxes from Palestinians working in the Gulf to help those under Israeli occupation. The money also includes donations from individual Saudis and other expatriate communities. The Saudi government, for long the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) main bankroller, suspended all financial aid to the Palestinians after the PLO backed Iraq during the Gulf crisis. After liberation of Kuwait in February, it allowed the transfer of collected taxes and donations. However, the government has not resumed its financial assistance to the PLO.

Luxury hotel burns in Eilat

TEL AVIV (AP) — A luxury hotel in the resort town of Eilat caught fire Monday injuring at least 24 people and sending scores of tourists to the streets, police and hospital officials said. Police in Eilat said the Queen of Sheba Hotel, a four-star hotel along the shores of the Red Sea, had caught fire and attempts were still being made to contain the blaze. Witnesses told army radio that smoke was billowing from the hotel and army rescue workers and firemen were trying to evacuate people trapped on the upper floors. A number of guests had jumped from the upper floors of the three-storey hotel to escape the flames army radio said.

Iran shuts down clinics for abortion

NICOSIA (R) — Medical authorities in Tehran have shut down 14 clinics accused of performing abortions and other illegal practices. Iranian radio reported Sunday. Among reasons given for the closures were "engaging in the illegal act of abortion," not holding medical certificates. Unlicensed sale of medicine and medical instruments, and performing dentistry without a licence.

Moroccan intellectual dies aged 83

RABAT (R) — Mohammad Al Fassi, who helped set up the Moroccan nationalist movement when the country was still a French protectorate, died Saturday aged 83, Moroccan Television announced Sunday. A leading Moroccan intellectual and political figure, Mr. Fassi was appointed minister of national education in 1955, a year before France relinquished its claims to Morocco, and cultural affairs minister in 1968. Tutor to King Hassan, he held honorary doctorates from several universities and was a member of Morocco's Royal Academy.



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06:16 (Sunrise) Duha 11:26 Dhuhr 14:12 'As 16c36 Maghreb 17:58lsha CHURCHES Tel. 810740

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De la Salle Church Tel, 661757 Terrameta Church Tel: 622366 Church of the Americation Tel 623541. Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331. Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751. Ammen International Church Tel. Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel: 811295. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 823824, 654932. Church of the Nazarene Tel. 675691.

Bulletia supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be rainy and winds will be southwesterly fresh. In Agaba, winds will be southerly fresh and seas rough. Min/Max. temp. Amman 3 / 10 Aqaba 8/20

WEATHER FREID:

Jordan Valley 8 / 18 Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 12, Aqaba 22. Humidity readines: Amman 63 per cent, Aqaba 37 per

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS **NIGHT DUTY**

Civil Defence Department 661111 Civil Defence Immediate AMMAN: Dr. Khalid Mu'addi 743500 Dr. Abbas Al Hakim 891256 Dr. Ghaleb Zawaidel: 736123 Ferdows pharmacy 778336 Al Asema pharmacy 637055 Nairoukh pharmacy 623672 Al Salam pharmacy 636730 Water and Sewerage Yacoub pharmacy 644945 Amount Municipality Simersus pharmacy 637660 Telephone Information Dr. Radwan Al Saad (—)

Al Sharaa' pharmacy (275825) ZARQA: **EMERGENCIES** Food Coatrol Centre 637111

HOSPITALS Fire Brigade...... 891228 AMMAN: Blood Bank 775121 Highway Police 843402 Traffic Police 896390 Public Security Department 630321 Hotel Complaints 605800 Malhas, J. Azuman Complaints 897467 (directory assistance) 121

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Central Amman Telephone Repairs 623101 Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101 Water Authority 680100 Jordan Electricity Authority ... 815615 Electric Power Company 636381 RJ Flight Information 08-53200 Queen Alia Intl. Airport..... 08-53200

Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32 Khahdi Maternity. J. Amn... 644281/6 Akileh Maternity, J. Amn.... 642441/2 Jabal Amman Maternity 642362 Palestine, Shmeisani 664171/4 Shmeisani Hospital 669131 University Hospital 845845 Al-Musher Hospital 667227/9 The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37 Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6 Italian, Al-Muhajreen 777101/3

Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafich 775111/26 Army, Marka 891611/15 Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50 Amal Hospital 674155 ZARQA: Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323 Zarqa National Hospital .. (09)900560 Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732 Al Hikma Modern Hospital (09)990990 Princess Basma Hospital .

Greek Catholic Hospital Ibe Al Nafees Hospital (02)247100 Princess Haya Hospital(03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1) 05:00 Sigapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)

69:30 Aqaba (RI) 99:55 Muscat, Dubai (RJ) 09:50 Doha, Bahrain (RJ) 17:85 New York, Montreal (RJ) 17:55 Frankfurt Belgrade (RJ) 19:20 Tripoli (RJ) Other Flights (Terminal 2) 19:35 Beirut (ME) 11:95 Bucharest (MS)

DEPARTURES Royai Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1) 67:99 Aqaba (RI) 18:38 London (RJ) 18:49 Tripoli (RJ

11:00 Vienna, Frankfurt (R) 11:10 Belgrade, Madrid (RJ) 11:30 Amsterdam, New York (RJ) 11:45 Rome Madrid (RJ) 11:50 Geneva, Paris (RJ) 29:30Jeddah (RJ) 20:15 Dhahran (RJ) 28:30 Abu Dubei (RJ) 21:15 Larmaca (RJ) 21:15 Darsascus (RJ)

MARKET PRICES Apple 950/ 600 Banana 500 / 450 7 Banana (Mukammar) 550/500

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

Beans 450/380 Cabbage 150 / 100: Carrots 220 / 160 ... Cucumbers (large) 250 + 160 Cucumbers (small) 520 / 450 Eggplant 206 / 140 750 / 650 250 Grapes 180 120 Grapes 900 7800 Guava 500 [.480] Pepper (hot) Pepper (sweet) 380 / 320 2 Potato 320 / 260 Sage 600 / 590 Spinach 150 /100 Tomatoes _____ 400 / 350

Appeal by princess results in \$1 million in donations

AMMAN (J.T.) - An appeai for aid by Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath has raised about \$1 million since September 1990 in donations and contributions of goods, according to a statement Monday.

Princess Sarvath recently received a consignment of 232 kilos of medicines from the International Relations Association of Japan, according to the statement from the Office of the Crown Prince. The princess has also received 120 cartons of milk powder from private donors in the United States which will be used by children who are unable to

digest regular milk.

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In addition, the princess personal appeal has resulted in the donation of 2,000 blankets from Pakistan and 12 wheelchairs from Canada, according to the statement.

The items will be distributed throughout the Kingdom to needy families. Other medicines and food previously received have already been distributed, the statement said.

The donations are being distributed through the Ministry of Health, the University Hospital, the Armed Forces Medical Service, the Red Crescent Society and the Queen Alia Fund.

Plans for reorganisation of downtown finalised AMMAN (J.T.) — Amman impedes the traffic movement, municipality has finalised plans

and designs for the first stage of a project for the reorganisation of the heart of the capital aimed at reducing traffic congestion in the centre of the city and saving fuel estimated at JD2 million worth annually. Engineer Hussein Madani, the

project director, said that the plans laid down by teams of engineers entail making changes in the traffic directions in a number of streets, installing several traffic lights along hundreds of metres of streets together with

related changes. The changes include a 2,000metre long rail along the pavements to prevent pedestrians from crossing the streets, which

and increase the number of street lamps in certain areas, Mr. Mada-

The King Hussein, Prince Mohammad, Al Hashimi, Talal, Basman, Petra, King Ghazi, Shabsough and Saadeh streets will be affected by the changes,

Mr. Madani said that at least 1,500 square metres of pavements will have to be built in the course of the plan and streets will be widened in some areas.

necessitated by the fact that at least 125,000 people move about in or out of the city centre on a out.

According to Mr. Madani, at least JD2 million worth of fuel will be saved, which will be achieved once the plan has been implemented since it entails mea-

sures for shortening distances.

Mr. Madani said that the focus of the plan's attention was the centre of the city of Amman, which contains the main shopping centres and banks, attracting the largest number of people and vehicles, creating congestions.

Mr. Madani said once the We added that the plan was funds for the project have been secured, work will begin. But, he added certain parts of the plan in the heart of the city during day like the iron rail along the main time and over 100,000 cars move streets have already been carried



Scenes like this may be a sign of the past once plans for the reorganisation of downtown Amman are implemented (File photo)



University of Jordan Vice President for Medical Faculties Affairs Dr. Misleh Al Tarawneh addresses participants of a symposium on nursing Monday at the university (Petra photo)

Committee established to upgrade nursing training and services

AMMAN (Petra) — Questions to pursue their higher studies at related to promoting the nursing profession in Jordan were discussed in detail at a symposium organised by the Nursing Faculty at the University of Jordan Mon-

Nursing both in terms of teaching and practice, creating a higher nursing council to deal with issues in the field and other related matters were the main points of discussion at the meeting, which was opened by University Vice President for Medical Faculties Affairs Dr. Misleh Al

Other topics reviewed by the to professional nurses, organising a post graduate studies course, offering the opportunity to community college graduates

university level and measures to offer nurses protection against the negative effects of handling chemical and radio active substances. Nurses work at hospitals, on-the-job training courses, circumstances surrounding the male and female nurses at work in Jordan were also among topics discussed by delegates from the University of Jordan along with representatives from the Jordan University of Science and Technology and the Royal Medical Services of the Jordanian Armed

The participants issued a stateparticipants included the creation ment appounding the creation of of a speical department at the a committee to work towards Health Ministry to deal with nurs- fulfilling the aspirations of nurses ing affairs and to offer incentives and to work out a plan that would meet their needs and satisfy their

The committee comprises representatives from the ministries

of health and education as well as the Jordan Nurses Association, the Royal Medical Services, the private sector and Jordanian uni-

Upon opening the meeting, Dr. Tarawneh underlined the importance of the teaching and practicing sides of the nursing profession, noting that nursing is a support for the medical practice. Dr. Tarawneh reviewed the University of Jordan's drive to raise the standard of nursing training at its faculty.

Dr. Rafiqah Abdul Rahim, the faculty dean, addressed the meeting and noted the numerous difficulties facing the country's nursing profession in general. She called for further attention to be given to the nursing profession and training to raise the standard of this profession in the King-

Jordan honours officers_ on Arab Police Day

Monday observed Arab Police Day with a ceremony during which police officers, retired policemen and citizens helping in police work were honoured.

Public Security Department (PSD) Director Fadel Ali attended the ceremony and made a brief statement tribute to the efforts of the police officers of various ranks in helping to ensure the public's security.

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan delivered by senior police officers who outlined police work and police activities.

> A representative of the retired police officers and Dr. Zuhair Malhas, president of the Jordanian Society for the Prevention of Road Accidents, also made speeches on the occasion.

The PSD director presented awards to retired police officers, acting officers and citizens who contributed towards the discov-Speeches on the occasion were ery of crimes or prevented others.

Al Ramtha soccer club returns from Iran, greeted by officials

AMMAN (J.T.) — Al Ramtha soccer club returned to Amman from Iran Monday morning after playing a match with the Iranian Molvan club that ended in a 1-1

The draw came in the first leg of the quarterfinals in the Asian Clubs Championships.

Present at the airport to welcome the returning team were Eid Al Fayez, Ministry of Youth's Secretary General, his assistant, the secretary general of the Jordanian Olympic Committee and a crowd of the Al Ramtha sports enthusiasts. Ramtha club members, the Al Ramtha folk troupe and team supporters, who accorded the players a tumultuous cheer, were also present.

Meanwhile, the Al Ramtha club is contesting the composition of the Iranian Molvan team, which played the match last Friday. The club claims that the Molvan team included two players who had already joined other clubs, but played against Al

a protest over this violation of the soccer rules had been lodged with the Asian Soccer Federation, organisers of the championship. Should the Iranian club be found to have violated the rules, the result would be changed dra-

matically into 3-0, club sources

As the Al Ramtha team awaits a reply to the protest, its members are reported undergoing rigorous training for the second leg of the quarterfinals, which is scheduled for Friday at Al Hassan Sports City in Irbid.

According to the rules of the soccer game if the Al Ramtha team wins or draws, it would move on into the semifinals.

Princess Haya visits ministry

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Royal Highness Princess Haya Bint Al Hussein Sunday visited the Ministry of Youth where she met with Minister of Youth Saleh Irsheidat. They discussed issues The two are Cyrus Vaigran, the related to the Royal Jordanian captain, and Mohammad Zada. Equestrian Federation and the Al Ramtha club sources said that I ways to improve the sport.



HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN POTASH PRODUCTION EXPANSION I.F.B. NO. 30-4857-65-5/65-7 ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE SUPPLY & INSTALLATION

11KV SWITCHBOARD & 3.3 KV MOTOR CONTROL CENTRES

The Arab Potash Company Limited (APC) of Amman, Jordan, plans to expand production capacity by 400,000 tonnes per year. The facilities will be located on a site adjoining the existing refinery near Safi, on the southern end of the Dead Sea, about 200 km north of the port of Aqaba.

APC has applied for financing to the World Bank. The proceeds of the loan will be applied to payments for the supply of the required equipment in accordance with the guidelines of the World Bank.

Purchases will be made from the member countries of the World Bank and Switzerland.

The Arab Potash Company invites suppliers interested in tendering for the supply of above I.F.B's to apply for Tender Documents to APC or Jacobs at the address shown below. The cost for this tender package shall be U.S. \$40, or equivalent, non-refundable.

1. Mr. Issa Gammoh, Projects Manager, The Arab Potash Co., Ltd., P.O.Box 1470, Amman-Jordan

Fax No.: 962-3-377125/Site Fax No.: 962-6-674416/Amman H.O. Telex No.: 21683 Potash Jo. Tel. No.: 666165/6 - Amman 665116 or 03-377121/3- Site

2. Mr. M. Hodgins, Jacobs International Inc., Merrion House, Merrion Road, Dublin 4, - Ireland

Fax No.: 353-1-2695497 Telex No.: 30295 JCBS-El Tel. No.: 353-1-2695666

Submission of tenders should not be later than 12:00 noon, February 22, 1992. A.Y.Ensour,

Managing Director, The Arab Potash Co., Ltd.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

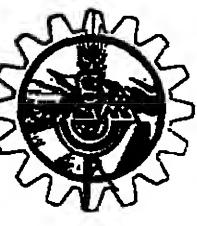
- Art exhibition by Jumana Al Husseini at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation Gallery - 10 a.m.- 5 p.m.
- * Exhibition of ceramics by Iraqi artist Salam Jamil Al Nouri at Alia Art Gallery.
- * Art and ornamentation exhibition by Sabah Hadidi at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- * Art exhibition by Iraqi artist Sabeb Al Yassiri at the Royal Cultural Centre.

SEMINAR

Seminar entitled "The Intifada and the Peace Conference: Towards Reviving the Popular Uprising in the Occupied Palestinian Land" at the Scientific and Cultural Centre of Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation — 6 p.m.



"THE KINGDOM RINGERS" AT THE MARRIOTT HOTEL - A group of 12 young students from the Baptist School featured some wonderful X-Mas carols using brassy bells. "The Kingdom Ringers" a group of 3 boys and 9 girls, directed by Barbara Johnson, play X-Mas tunes during the month of December. The Amman Marriott Hotel features the Kingdom Ringers during the currently organised X-Mas bazzars at the hotel and other X-Mas functions.



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HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN POTASH PRODUCTION EXPANSION I.F.B. NO. 30-4857-64-9

ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE SUPPLY OF CONTROL SYSTEMS

The Arab Potash Company Limited (APC) of Amman, Jordan, plans to expand production capacity by 400,000 tonnes per year. The facilities will be located on a site adjoining the existing refinery near Safi, on the southern end of the Dead Sea, about 200 km north of the port of Aqaba. APC has applied for financing to the World Bank. The proceeds of the loan will be applied to payments for the supply of the required equipment in accordance with the guidelines of the World Bank.

Purchases will be made from the member countries of the World Bank and Switzerland.

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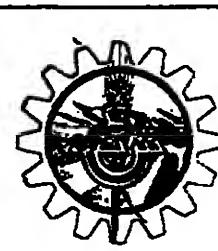
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2. Mr. M. Hodgins, Jacobs International Inc., Merrion House, Merrion Road, Dublin 4, - Ireland

Fax No.: 353-1-2695497 Telex No.: 30295 JCBS-Ei Tel. No.: 353-1-2695666 .

Submission of tenders should not be later than 12:00 noon, February 15,

A.Y.Ensour, Managing Director, The Arab Potash Co., Ltd.



HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN POTASH PRODUCTION EXPANSION I.F.B. NO. 30-4857-65-1/65-3

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The Arab Potash Company Limited (APC) of Amman, Jordan, plans to expand production capacity by 400,000 tonnes per year. The facilities will be located on a site adjoining the existing refinery near Safi, on the southern end of the Dead Sea, about 200 km north of the port of Aqaba. APC has applied for financing to the World Bank. The proceeds of the loan will be applied to payments for the supply of the required equipment in accordance with the guidelines of the World Bank.

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Fax No.: 353-1-2695497 Telex No.: 30295 JCBS-EI Tel. No.: 353-1-2695666

Submission of tenders should not be later than 12:00 noon, February 29, 1992. A.Y.Ensour,

Managing Director, The Arab Potash Co., Ltd.

By Rami G. Khouri

Jordan Times

جوران تأيمز يهمية عرمية سيأسية مستقلة تصدر بالامطيزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردمية

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Timely but flawed

THE TIMING of the repeal of the 1953 law banning communism in Jordan and allowing for the prosecution of communist activists could not be more perfect. On the very day that the controversial legislation was rescinded, the death knell was also sounded for the Soviet Union, the prime bastion and birth place of communism. Thus, the removal of the law against communism coincided with the ending of any meaningful threat or challenge from the communist order and ideology. Nevertheless Jordan's choice to delete from its law books an archaic and possibly unconstitutional law was also a memorable occasion that deserves commemoration not so much for what it did but rather for what it suggests and implies, namely, that the democratisation process in the Kingdom is making great strides in form and substance.

The other bill passed Sunday by the Lower House of Parliament was the new Defence Law. The old 1935 Defence Law that the new law replaces was adopted before the establishment of the Kingdom. By all accounts and standards, the old Defence Law should have been repealed a long time ago. Yet there is something important lacking in the new legislation in the sense that it does not meet the requirements prescribed by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), which Jordan ratified in 1977. Article 4 of that international instrument calls on member states to notify the U.N. secretary general of any declaration of martial law or state of emergency in order for him to notify the rest of the state parties to the covenant of the country's decision. The covenant also calls on countries to notify the U.N. about the articles of the covenant that it wishes to derogate from for the purposes of maintaining law and order in an emergency situation. The new Defence Law of 1990 does not contain any such references and, therefore, it is in this context deficient in a serious manner. It would be relatively easy to rectify such serious omission by enacting an immediate amendment to the law for this purpose. Otherwise, the Kingdom would remain accountable before the relevant U.N. body for such important flaw.

It appears also that our legal experts are not sufficiently cognizant of the country's treaty obligations. National legislations are often adopted without due attention to the various conventions that the government has signed and ratified. As such international commitments supercede national laws, with the exception of the Constitution, it would be prudent to keep in focus such treaty obligations when the country articulates its legislation.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I Arabic daily Monday attacked as shameful the behaviour and practices of the leaders of the Arab Gulf states and described a summit they are holding as paving the ground for yet another shameful act against the Alab countries. The Gulf leaders, meeting in a tent which cost \$9 million to erect, have chosen to isolate themselves from the rest of the Arab Nation and to sell themselves to the colonialist Western nations, said the paper. Despite all attempts on the part of Saudi Arabia to lessen the degree of hostility and hatred harboured by the Gulf states, expect for Oman, towards the other Arab countries, these states continue to act with hostility towards the Arab World, the paper said. It said that the leaders of these states are propagating the idea among their peoples that Arabism is a racist movement after they had given their blessings to a U.N. General Assembly decision to cancel a 1975 resolution that equated Zionism with racism. These leaders, said the paper, are presenting themselves as victors in the Gulf war against Iraq, whose people were victim of an American-led aggression, and boasting to be the sole beneficiaries of the aggression on a sister Arab state which continues to suffer from starvation, sickness and deprivation. With their summit in Kuwait and their current behaviour, the Gulf states' leaders are trying to escape from their shameful act of offering Arab wealth as a gift to the aggressors. The paper said that the consequence of this summit in Kuwait can by no means brighten the image of those who have sold out their nation.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily urged the Kuwaiti authorities and Kuwaiti people to refrain from further mal-practices against the Jordanian-Palestinian community still living in the emirate. Referring to the current campaign to evict the remainder of this community from the emirate, Bader Abdul Haq, said that the Jordanian and Palestinian citizens should be offered thanks for their long and noble service to the emirate and not a hostile action from people they have lived with for decades. Writing in Al Ra'i daily, the writer said that more than a year has elapsed after the Gulf war, but the Kuwaitis are singling out the Palestinians and the Jordanians out of all the other nationalities in Kuwait, to vent for their hatred and mistreat these unfortunate people who happened to be caught up against their will in a very dangerous situation that witnessed the occupation of Kuwait and thesubsequent Western aggression on Iraq, the writer pointed out. He said that the Kuwaitis are finding in the Gulf summit meeting a pretext to drive out whatever remained of the Jordanians and Palestinians who committed no crime and who had never tried over the past decades to cause trouble or destabilise the security of the emirate as they are being accused at present. The writer said the Kuwaitis should offer the Jordanians and Palestinians their rights and compensations with a word of thanks rather than treating them in a shameful manner.

The View from Fourth Circle

Ghosts, failure and the gates of hell

ABOUT two months ago, I wrote that we should not expect anything substantial to occur during the first several months of the peace process that was launched in Madrid at the end of October. Here we are at the end of December, and nothing very substantial has happened yet. I would simply add today that the peace talks probably will not make progress on substantive issues for at least another two months, perhaps by late February, for very good reasons related to the complex concept of human honour.

The fact it, all the key players in the peace process except for Moscow are participating with much reluctance, because they will have to relinquish or admit things that they would rather neither relinquish nor admit. Moscow's case is relatively simple because it is the first instance in modern history of a ghost sponsoring an international diplomatic process — a nice, friendly, lovable ghost, but a ghost nevertheless. The ghost can only win by being invited to the party, and win big by being asked to co-host the jamboree.

The Israelis have to relinquish one thing (lands they occupied in 1967), and admit two things (that the Palestinians exist and have national rights, and that the idea that God gave the land of Palestine to form a Greater Israel is emotionally compelling to Jews but politically fantastic to the rest of the world). All the Arabs have to admit one thing (Israel exists and must be recognised and accepted as a legal state in this region), and give up one thing (the expectation that the justice of our position is sufficient to bring us back our rights and lands, without our having

to engage in a painful diplomatic process to retrieve them). The Americans will have to relinquish much extra money for Israel, but that's nothing new, and will have to admit one thing (that their imbalanced support for Israel for many decades has been a key factor in perpetuating the Arab-Israeli conflict, and has to be modified into a more even-handed policy).

In other words, everybody will have to admit they were once mistaken, and will now have to compromise to atone for the wrongs of the past. This is never an easy thing to do, but is essential if peace and justice are to prevail. The point about the stalemate since Oct. 30 is that, a) nobody wants to make the first move to admitting their own past errors by b) making a gesture of compromise to the enemy, because c) this will force them to swallow their pride and accept the contentions of the enemy. This tactic of maintaining rigid, hardline positions is totally normal at this stage of the process, and we should not let it bother us. With such obstinate protagonists, the stalemate can only be broken if one side collapses (unlikely), or the third party mediator/sponsor steps in and forces the issue (likely, but not certain).

I would suspect that at the next round of talks, the sponsors (Baker, Ghost & Co.) will go through the motions of playing the mediator's role, but will still evade the gut issues of land, withdrawal, and recognition, i.e. they will not want to get into the admitting or relinquishing business, and will not prod their party guests to do anything of the sort — yet. The United States is now paying the price for its many decades of partiality and heavyhandedness in the Middle Fast — and Mr. Baker's Catalyst Fantastic Show ("golly jee whiz folks, we're just a bunch of friendly old cow pokes here to lend a helping hand if y'all need a little friendly nudge, y'all understand what I mean?") simply will not eliminate the impact of several decades of official American

bias and shortsightedness.

The minute the United States gets off the fence and leans on Israel to accept the principle of exchanging land for peace (as it has started to do with the \$10 billion loan guarantees delay), the Israelis harden up (as they did in Madrid and Washington). If the United States pushes harder, the Israelis will try to fight back through their powerful American electoral interests. In an election year when Mr. Bush is having serious short-term problems, the price of confronting Israel may be too high for him in domestic electoral terms. The result is either a total breakdown of the peace process, or a faise peace rammed down the throat of a weak Arab World, and destined to collapse, Vietnam peacelike, within months or years. In either case, the outcome is not

hopeful. This brings up the big question that has always loomed large in my book: what happens if the peace talks fail, if the sponsors do not intervene, if the protagonists remain deadlocked, and if the whole process collapse in late 1992?

This is still a strong possibility. It raises a vision of the future that all of us in the Holy Land would like to avoid. But we cannot avoid it, because, like the waste and the suffering of the past, it stalks us and haunts us. It is a vision of perpetual conflict, ever more violent warfare, and an increasingly unstable and fractured region deep in the grips of fear, hatred, anger, fanaticism, desperation, and death.

We should be clear about the stakes at hand in the peace talks. If Baker, Ghost & Co. throw up their hands in despair, the process fails, and the Arabs and Israelis return home for good, our region is certain to continue down the road it has travelled since the 1950s. The Arab Nation will continue to struggle for its identity and its soul. The Arab people will perpetually battle the iron grips of autocratic regimes and oligarchic interests that seek to maintain a false stability by entering into mercantile alliances with imperial powers in the West. Some particularly grotesque Arab regimes will seek protection by renting armies from the West, while the more sensible Arab people at grassroots level will seek dignity by drawing strength from their own culture and

The affront that Israel represents to the Arab and Muslim people will continue to hound the conscience of those in the realms of Arabism and Islam who have grown weary of the struggle, and who have settled instead for the solace of air conditioners, the joys of potatoe chips, and the comforts of just enough cash at the end of every month to feed the family. The process of Arab defeat and subjugation will not dissipate into the warm evenings of the Orient or disappear into the mysterious recesses of the Oriental mind. Instead, it will whittle away at the remaining fragments of Arab self-respect, constantly chiding every new generation to dare anew to seek dignity and national self-assertion, to assure itself enough food to feed its entire nation.

A Middle East that continues the trends of the past few decades will surely explode again into anger and warfare. Like the burning of Knwait in 1991, this will see other Arab countries set ablaze perhaps by their own people, perhaps by angry neighbours from the same house of Arabism, or perhaps by hungry, unemployed,

frantic members of the same Islamic-Christian family who have neither enough food for their children nor water for their bodies. They will be offered air conditioners and potatoe chips, and they will burn them both, for such commodities mean little to dyine societies oscillating between desperation and death.

We are in the uncomfortable situation of negotiating with little power other than the morality and justice of our case (a currency that means little to ghosts and those who associate with them) or the threat that our people will erupt into a great frenzy of despair at some point in the future, when they run out of patience, lies. tricks, food, and water.

The cost of failure is almost unimaginable, but still possible. It is a cost that will be deemed acceptable by the West, because the Arabs have little strategic value left in a world in which cowboys battle ghosts. It may also be acceptable to Israel, which feels, Crusader-like, that it can isolate itself from its neighbours. protected by castles, nuclear bombs, and foreign sources of income. Some Arabs and Muslims, for their part, may decide that they, too, can distance themselves from the madness of their Semitic cousins, perhaps by living permanently in five-star hotek in chic international resorts.

In fact, though, these visions of escape are just that — mere. hollow visions — because it will not be easy to escape the fury of several hundred million Arabs who are relegated to chronic poverty, autocracy, humiliation, and rage. This, in the end, is the vision that haunts us: a future as flawed as our recent past, a world ruled by political injustice and material inequity, the birthplace of the three great monotheistic religions rendered into a grotesque battlefield of messianic armies, a veritable killing field where the sword is held by those who kill in the name of their own God.

We have already had a glimpse of this ugly future, in the violence of the Israeli right, or the butchery conducted in several Arab countries by public and private armies that claim allegiance to assorted Christian or Muslim groups. Our land has been soiled by hijackers, terrorists, and hostage-takers. Our heritage has been demeaned by the highest rate of military spending in the entire world juxtaposed against the lowest rate of genuine stability in the entire world. Our future has been placed in bondage to a great unknown: can we escape from the current: cycle of defeat, stalemate, and violence?

The current political-economic order in the region will not long sustain itself if existing problems are not resolved to the satisfaction of the majority of the people of this region. The Arab-Israeli conflict is a key determinant of the current state of fragmentation, violence, and regression, and will remain so if it is not resolved in a just manner. Either we move forward to justice, peace, coexistence, and stability for all, or we move forward to more of the violence of the past — a past that destroyed Crusaders and many other foreign imperial intruders, and that mercilessly burned those of the region, whether Christians, Muslims or Jews, who feigned legitimacy by seeking to live in small fortress states isolated from their natural surroundings.

This is what is at stake in the peace talks. We should always be aware of it, because it is a reality that we may have to deal with one day. As we negotiate in good faith, we should aim for the best, but always be prepared for the worst. The option of failure is not a weekend in Aqaba. It is a rendezvous with the gates of hell.

Silwan settlers — part of long tradition of takeovers in Jerusalem

By Robert Mahoney. Reuter

JERUSALEM — Across the roofs of the covered markets in them. Jerusalem's Muslim quarter, militant Israeli settlers are spreading out from the Jewish quarter latest encroachment in what "Judaisation" of Arab East Jeru- site.

The skyline that embraces the Christian church of the Holy Sepulchre on Golgotha Hill and the great Muslim shrine, the golden dome of the Rock Mosque, is now dotted with Israeli flag.

They mark houses taken over by settlers with the blessing and protection of the most hardline government in modern Israeli his-

Palestinians say groups of nationalist and messianic Jews, using a combination of financial inducement, harassment, and legal manoeuvres, have taken over at least 53 Arab houses and a large Christian hospice in East Jerusalem, which Isrel captured

The settlers have now set their sights on the Arab village of Silwan outside the city walls, they

from Jordan in 1967.

Maps showing buildings taken over by the authorities for security purposes or houses liable for seizure by the state under laws

governing absentee ownership are officially secret. But the settlers are familiar with their contents and are basing plans on

Israeli flags flying in Jerusalem's old city show a chain of Jewish settlement stretching along major thoroughfares to the Palestinians call the creeping western wall, Judaism's holiest

The pattern of Jewish settlement in the old city fits into a bigger scheme within the municipality of Jerusalem, which in turn slots into a wider West Bank

Maps obtained by reporters show plans to build more than 200 housing units for Jews around the old city walls, more than 200 homes south of the walls in Silwan and more than 1,000 units worth of the old city, all in Arab

Jerusalem's Mayor Teddy Kollek has denounced the plans as provocative.

During his 26 years in city hall Mr. Kollek was pursued a "mosaic" policy of keeping Jews out of potentially explosive Arab neighbourhoods. But he has surrounded such areas with huge Jewish housing projects.

Some 140,000 Jews now live across the pre-1967 border of the city, slowly encircling the estimated 150,000 Arabs in East Jerusalem and cutting them off

from their natural hinterland of the West Bank. About 350,000 Israelis live in West Jerusalem. Israel claims the entire city of so Jerusalem as its capital, but this is not recognised internationally

Even if he wanted to, Mr. Kollek would be virtually powerless to stop the drive by hawkish Housing Minister Ariel Sharon to place enough Jews in the West Bank and Jerusalem to make its return to Arabs under any U.S.brokered Middle East peace

Chains of budding settlements cut the Jerusalem region into quarters, from Ramaliah in the north of Bethlehem in the south, from the Latrun region in the west to the hills overlooking Jericho in the east.

accord extremely difficult.

Mr. Sharon heads a special government committee, formed to absorb an influx of Soviet Jews, which can and does override the Jerusalem municipality. Palestinians and left-wing Israeli politicians say the trail of permission and funding for many recent settier takeovers can be traced back to Mr. Sharo&n, whose office routinely declines to dis-

So when the U.S. State Department issued a strong appeal to the government this month to rein in settlers in Silwan, Palestinians laughed.

cuss such matters.

One unearthed a speech by

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir in August 1988 which left no doubt about government plans.

settle in the old city and that this becomes part of our general settlement policy in the land of Israel and also that East Jerusalem be settled extensively by Jews," Mr. Shamir said.

Palestinian academics say government policy appears to be to maintain a Jew to Arab ratio of 7:1 in the Jerusalem area. Because the Arab birth rate is higher this can be achieved only by preventing Arabs from building in Jerusalem and moving them from the Muslim quarter, they

The Palestinians say the first goal is easily achieved by withholding municipal planning permission. The second requires at least a veneer of legality.

Palestinians say the law favours the settlers who use evidence of former Jewish ownership or tenancy of an Arab-occupied house to acquire it. Palestinians are forbidden by law to buy former Arab houses in the Jewish quarter of the old city and it is almost impossible for them to buy property in West Jerusalem as Jews won't sell to them.

The main settler groups use the law or pay huge sums to tenants to acquire properties, sometimes one room at a time.

channeling funds to one group which also raises money from the "We must see to it that Jews . United States. Potential foreign investors are given a tour of the old city pointing out former Jewish houses.

Ministers have acknowledged

Ateret Cohamim, an offshoot of the larger Gush Emunim (block of the faithful) group colonising the West Bank and Gaza Strip, already refers to the Muslim quarter as the old Jewish

"Everything we do is legal," said Yossi Baumol, of Ateret Cohamim. "What we are trying to do here is right an historical wrong. There was a Jewish majority here in 1914 under Turkish rule."

Jews left the old city in the 1920s, because overcrowding and repeated Arab rioting.

Settlers now say they are merely repossessing Jewish-owned property in the Muslim quarter. Palestinians and foreign academics dispute this. British researcher Graham

McNeill says Jewish occupancy, like that of their Arab neighbours, was generally based not on ownership but on the traditional system whereby the tenant of property buys the right of occupancy through paying key-

The settlers take advantage of the lack of land registration in the old city where residency had traditionally been the main proof of ownership.

Several rooms acquired this way were given to settlers this year after a Jew was stabbed nearby. Even in contested cases the settlers just move in to "create" facts on the ground. "If the Arab tenants go to court, the case could take years, during which

...Many properties have also

been seized by the authorities for

security reasons since 1967. Their

number and location is a secret.

time settlers are often allowed to stay in the disputed property. This is so with the most famous case, the Greek Orthodox owned Saint John's Hospice in the old city. The Greek partriarch chal-

lenged the Ateret Cohanim 1990; takeover of the 72-room complex. and won an eviction order which, the settlers challenged. While the case continues some 20 settless have been allowed to stay in the

The settlers who took a house in Silwan in December bought a part of it from a tenant. Even though the owner did not sell it to them, the sale was viewed as legal. and the settlers moved in.

British academic Richard Thomas believes many Arabs willhave left the Muslim quarter

within 10 years. "If the Israeli occupation of the old city continues without major, changes, by the end othe century, we are likely to see an old city

'Disneyworld' with the former' Palestinian residents providing 85 exotic biblical backdrop for tourist excursions," he said.

LETTERS

Iraqis need help

To the Editor:

HIS grace the Archbishop of Canterbury will be visiting Jordan in the first few days of next month. This is, of course, a good opportunity for everyone to welcome him here, not far away from the Christian holy places which Israel usurped.

It would be an excellent idea if His Grace could spend a few more days in the Middle East to be able to visit Iraq to witness the inhumane conditions in which it was left and from which it still. suffers with the death of tens of thousands of children, women. and old people who are deprived of food and medicine. I am sure His Grace would call through his exalted position for

the unprecedented sanctions to be lifted.

George Khoury, Amman, Jordan.

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld only upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to. editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of unused, manuscripts.

Subsidising irrigation water?

By Ali Z. Ghezawi farmers modern irrigation

ONLY seven per cent of Jordan's cultivated land is irrigated by surface water coming from Yarmouk River and side wadis. These irrigated lands are located mainly in the Jordan Valley, and produce 70 per cent of the Kingdom's agricultural production. The Jordan Valley is in fact the country's agricultural backbone in terms of its output. The valley, endowed with semi-tropical climate and sufficient water sources, assists the government in the socio-economic development of the area around it.

During 1962-1969 the government, with external financial and technical assistance completed the 78 kilometres long King Abdullah (East Ghour) canal with a distribution network. The first phase. of the canal was designed to irrigate about 120,000 dunums; presently, the canal irrigates

320,000 dunums, marking an increase of 260 per cent over 1969. The construction of the canal expanded and diversified the valley's agricultural pro-

It is worth mentioning that prior to the construction of the canal, the irrigating water was distributed according to a sharing scheme, depending mainly on tribal historical rights, which was strictly enforced and respsected. Furthermore, land distribution in the valley, by the government, was the first case in the Kingdom where some form of socialism as imposed upon the land owner.

Due to the valley's significant contribution to the Kingdom's economy, the government established the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) to supervise and carry out the development process. The authority introduced to the valley

techniques in order to save water and expand the irrigated cultivated land in the valley. Moreover, the authority worked on a plan to extend the canal by another 40 kilometres southward. They overcame two major constraining factors: the scarcity of water resources. which depend mainly on fluctuating rainfall to recharge the strategic ground water and to fill the Kingdom dams and the fact that farmers in the southern Ghour (valley) cultivated banana's and other water-consuming crops.

JVA initiated a scheme in order to save in the irrigation water by compensating farmers who do not cultivate all their agricultural units (30 dunums). The scheme calls for the payment of JD 10 per non-cultivated dunum, provided that not more than 20 dunums per

water saved by this scheme will for sure be channelled to big farms of banana and citrus growers. Such a scheme will not allow small farmers to compete and achieve a minimum level of socio-economic progress. Subsidising irrigation water is one of the main obstacles in

unit remain uncultivated. The

the process of water conservation in Jordan and a contributor to water waste. The Jordan Valley Authority should stop subsidising irrigation water and encourage farmers by rewarding some of the money thus saved to farmers who conserve water and have the best crop in terms of quality and quantity. The government should also subsidise new water irrigation conservation systems.

The writer is a landowner and an economist.

By Nidal M. Ibrahim Special to the Jordan Times

BETHLEHEM, Occupied West Bank - The small crowd stood outside the metre-high wiremesh fence surrounding the Israeli police station. Inside the gates, sitting in the back of a jeep, the three girls, with an edge of hysteria in their voices, pleaded their innocence with the soldiers.

"We were going to the store to buy screamed. buy "yoghurt," they

The girls, aged between 15 and 18, had just been taken into custody. They were suspected of having put up political posters.

Though not related to any of the girls, the crowd outside, exemplifying the sense of family and cooperation that has come to characterise the Palestiniar. intifada, pleaded with the soldiers to allow the girls to go free.

Freij rejects

(Continued from page 1)

his community and Beit Sahur, a Christian town where tradition

holds shepherds learned of the

birth of Christ, would accept only directives from the uprising lead-

He added: "I want to say that the Palestinian leadership outside

and inside support the opening of Bethlehem and adjoining Beit

He urged shops, restaurants and cafes to remain open and said

people should "do their shop-

The Palestine Liberation Orga-

nisation (PLO) and Hamas have

been the main forces behind the

The uprising has resulted in subdued Christmas holidays in

Bethlehem in recent years, with

Beirut body

(Continued from page 1)

held, and Mr. Picco is trying to obtain their release along with the remains

to be kidnapped in Lebanon since the spate of abductions began in 1984. He also was the third American hostage

Col. Higgins was the last American

Announcing his execution, his kidnappers released a 30-second

videotape showing a man, purportedly Col. Higgins, hanging from a gal-

lows. There was no way to determine

U.N. sources in Lebanon have said that although his death was

announced in July 1989, they believed Col. Higgins died of torture in De-

cember 1983, after an escape attempt. In addition to Col. Higgins, Wil-

liam Buckley, 57, the Central Intelli-

gence Agency (CIA) station chief in Beirut and librarian Peter Kilburn,

when the video was made.

61, have died in captivity.

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of hostages who died in captivity.

shops and restaurants closed.

Sahur ... all the day."

four-year uprising.

The girls were soon taken from the back of the jeep into the police station. Word of their arrest was passed to their families. Parents, uncles, aunts, brothers and sisters soon joined the vigil in the chilly, empty night.

An hour passed before another army jeep screeched to a halt in front of the gates. In the back, one could hear giggling. Two woman soldiers. looking out of place in their olive drab uniforms, were helped off the jeep and led into the police station. They had been brought in to strip search the detainces.

By this time, the parents were growing increasingly despondent. As the mothers continually uttered prayers, the fathers helplessly paced back and forth, stopping occasionally to look and listen to the soldiers' screaming and the girls' pleading.

Suddenly, two unshaven and

A day in the life of a Palestinian town

unkempt teenagers walked out from the honeycomb of alleyways that spill into the city square. They walked past the waiting crowd, to the edge of the wiremesh fence and stood there, away from the crowd. Soon, a soldier came out to meet them. After some initial whispering, the soldier started screaming at the teenagers as if they had committed some offence and pushed them into the police yard and the building.

"This is it." said a bystander. "Those dogs! Now we know (who turned the girls in)." The two teenagers, he was saying were most probably collaborators. Not being residents of Bethlehem, they had recently

been seen around town. "I am not afraid of the Jews," the bystander, a local reporter, said. "What can the Jews do to me? I am afraid of the Arabs. That is our problem."

Lucy, one of the girls

arrested, had been arrested and imprisoned previously for taking part in the intifada, said Hanna J. Nasser, deputy mayor of Bethlehem, interviewed the next day. Her two older brothers had also served time in prison. Lucy's father had died when she was young.

he said. "Her mother came to the house in the morning to see me and asked me to intervene with the authorities," Mr. Nasser said. "I told her there was nothing I could do."

Each of the girls eventually confessed to being guilty of the charges, he said. There were reports that they were slapped and beaten during the interrogation.

Each girl was fined 750 shekels, Mr. Nasser said. The average monthly salary of a municipal worker in Bethlehem is 700 shekels per month. While people, alleged offences and fines may vary,

similar scenes are repeated hundreds of times throughout the occupied Arab territories, one witness said. Economic strangulation either through imposition of

fines or the suppression of the emergence of an economic infrastructure - is the main weapon used by the Israelis to silence the nationalistic tendencies of the Palestinians.

The story of Lucy and her friends, and most of all the 750 shekels fine, was soon known by most of the town, spread through the grapevine. Economic strangulation — the message had been reinforced. "We hope that we reach our goal eventually and have our lands liberated," Mr. Nasser said. "We can't continue to live under occupation."

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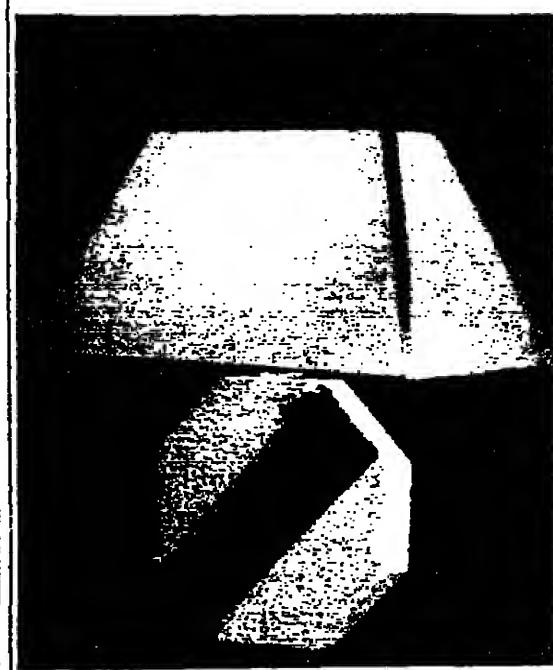
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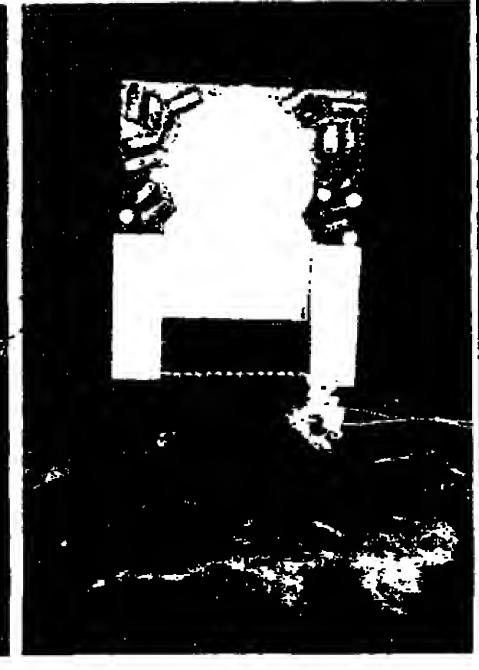
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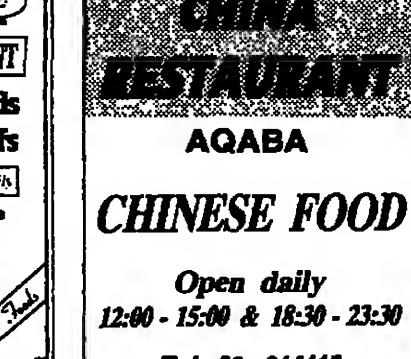
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Real Madrid drops point, raise rivals' hopes

LONDON (R) — Real Madrid's colouriess goaless draw against Real Orviedo has raised rivals' hopes that the Spanish Soccer Championship is not yet a foregone conclusion.

"The league is hotting up," ran the headline of a popular Spanish sporting paper as Atletico Madrid moved one point closer to the top of the table this weekend after their 1-0 win over Sporting Gijon. They now trail Real by six points.

Atletico trainer Luis Aragones believes the league is still wide open. "Madrid's advantage is important but you can't now talk about a league winner — that won't be decided until the end and then we'll see who the champions are."

"You can't win all the time," said Real Madrid striker Emilio Butragueno, who missed plenty of chances in his side's second consecutive draw after their irresistible run of form.

Real trainer Radomir Antic preferred to focus on progress so far. "This has been the best year of my sporting career," he said. Barcelona, also back on track, slammed Cadiz 4-1 and heard Danish striker Michael Laudrup confirm he was staying for another season.

"I haven't found anything better than this club," he said. Ace French marksman Jean-Pierre Papin had another success-

ful weekend. On Saturday, he helped Marseille crush Caen 5-0. Papin is almost sure to clinch his fourth consecutive title with champions Marseille, now four points clear of Monaco with a game in hand.

It will probably be his last season in France. Like many European soccer stars, Papin is

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Sergei

Bubka has dominated world pole

vaulting for the last decade while

competing for the Soviet Union.

Now he looks forward to repre-

Ukraine? I think it's the best

solution," Bubka said in a tele-

phone interview Sunday from his

home town of Donetsk. "I don't

understand why we must be one

Bubka was refering to the 11

former Soviet republics that

formed the Commonwealth of

Independent States Saturday in

Ukraine earlier this week

asked the International Olympic

Committee to allow it to partici-

pate independently in the 1992

The request was made Thurs-

day, the same day the Vice Presi-

dent of the Soviet Olympic Com-

mittee said Ukraine would com-

pete on a unified Soviet team at

the winter games that begin in

Albertville, France, on Feb. 8.

from the Ukrainian parliament

Thursday asking that Ukraine's

National Olympic Committee be.

recognised as a full member of

An official request was sent

games, according to a news agen-

team of 11 countries."

Alma Ata, Kazakhastan.

"Why not compete for

senting his native Ukraine.

poised to join an Italian club. The 28-year-old striker said he had received offers from AC Milan. Napoli and Juventus.

Dutch first division leaders PSV Eindoven go into the winter break with their unbeaten record in tact.

Maritimo.

Forest Sunday.

have 44 points.

Crystal Palace.

bad tackle on Jorge Cadete.

two games in hand after their

home game with Aston Villa was

postponed Saturday because of a

waterlogged pitch, stayed ahead

of Leeds on goal difference. Both

but failed to produce clear-cut

opening, while Forest could have

stolen the points if they had put

away one of three good chances.

in a top-of-the-table clash at El-

scored his first goal since coming

back from a four-match break

because of his baby son's illness

to help Tottenham win 2-1 at

scorer with 20 goals, scored in the

36th minute Paul Walsh had put

Tottenham ahead 20 minutes ear-

fierce wind after the break and

Palace pulled a goal back when

Tottenham's former England de-

fender Terry Fenwick put the ball

in his own net in the 62nd minute.

very bad. Who will give money to

the athletes? For me it's no prob-

lem, but it will be difficult for

many other athletes," said Bub

ka, who has several endorsement

contracts and gets big bonus

money every time he sets a world

Bubka, who earlier this year

signed a contract to compete for a

track club in Berlin, has broken

the world pole vault record 28

times — 15 indoors and 13 out-

doors. That makes him one of the

greatest record-breakers in track

His indoor record is 6.12

metres and he improved the out-

door mark to 6.10 (20-0) — be-

coming the first man to clear 20

feet outdoors - in Malmo,

Sweden, a few weeks before win-

ning the event at the World

Athletics Championships in

Bubka, 28, and Carl Lewis, the

outstanding athletics athletes of

the 1980s, will compete Feb. 5 in

"I will probably be my season

debut indoors although I may

compete in a meet in France at

the end of January," Bubka said.

"I'm training quite hard now. I've

been jumping well in training, but I'm bothered by pain in my left

Stockholm's Globe Arena.

and field history.

Tokyo in August.

record.

But Spurs struggled against a

Lineker, English football's top

land Road next Saturday.

Manchester United face Leeds

England captain Gary Lineker

Leeds enjoyed more possession

PSV trainer and former England manager Bobby Robson gave a rare smile after his side's closing game of 1991 — they won 4-0 away to FC Twente Sunday. He even had the good humour to throw a couple of words of his seldom-heard Dutch into a postmatch interview.

But rumours of his departure from Eindhoven at the end of the season will continue to swirl until his PSV contract is renegotiated next month.

EUROPEAN SOCCER

Thirteen wins and six draws have given his side 32 points. Only two points and a game in hand separate them from Feyenoord Rotterdam, who have mounted a concerted charge on the top of the table during the early winter months. The league

resumes on Jan. 10. Porto's goalkeeper Vitor Baia set a Portuguese record of 1,079 minutes without conceding a goal in the 0-0 draw at Boavista Sun-

Baia surprised the 1,064minute mark set by Benfica's Manuel Bento 10 yeara ago. Champions Benfica, who beat Uniao da Madeira 1-0 away Saturday, regained top place. Porto remained one point be-

hind with a game in hand. Benfica, reduced to 10 men in the 71st minute when Soviet striker Sergei Uran was sent off for a

Bubka, who broke the world

pole vault record four times in-

doors and four times outdoors

this year, said he had not yet

talked to the Ukrainian Olympic

"I don't have much informa-

tion about an Ukrainian team

It's a difficult question. But we'll

have a meeting in Kiev Tuesday.

Then I'll meet our leaders. If

Ukraine can't send its own team

to the winter games, maybe it will

happen for the summer games."

Canada and Great Britain, had

recognised Ukraine following the

former Soviet republic's over-

whelming vote on independence

on Dec. 1. Ukrainian athletes

have won 400 medals, including

177 golds, for the Soviet Union

Bubka, who will defend his

1988 Olympic title in Barcelona

in August, said the political tur-

moil in the former Soviet Union

has created a tough situation for

Gossport, the government

agency that funded, controlled

and pumped Communist ideology

into generations of Soviet cham-

pion athletes, went out of busi-

many athletes.

At least 15 countries, including

Bubka ready to compete for Ukraine

tion Service said.

Committee.

Papin wins Europe's Player of foul, clinched the winner four minutes later. Antonio Pacheco the Year scored from the penalty spot after Vitor Paneira was brought down by Brazilian defender Marco Au-Award

An 87th minute goal by defen-PARIS (R) - Jean-Pierre Papin. der Jose Leal gave third-placed whose fans love him as much for sporting a 2-1 home victory over his unpretentious life style as his goal-scoring exploits, was voted Maritimo captain Carlos Jorge European Footballer of the Year.

was sent off in the first half for a The Marseille striker won the vote by 29 sports journalists over Leeds United blew a chance to the other three finalists, German go back on top of the English skipper Lothar Matthaeus of Insoccer first division when they ternazionale, and Yugoslav stars were held 0-0 at Nottingham Darko Pancev and Dejan Savicevic of European champions Manchester United, who have

Red Star Belgrade. The 28-year-old striker, who has scored 124 times in the league since his first match with Marseille in 1986, is only the third Frenchman to receive the prestigious title after Raymond Kopa and current national team boss Michel Platini.

Papin, despite his successful year, was on the losing side in the European Cup final against Red Star last May but he is hoping to make up by helping France win the European Championship in Sweden next June.

Papin won 141 votes, while Matthacus, the 1990 European Footballer of the Year, Pancev and Savisevic each got 42 points. A third Yugoslav, Real Madrid's Robert Prosinecki, was fifth

with 34. To his opponents, Papin is one of the most dangerous strikers in the world today. But to everybody else, he is J.P.P., the star with simple tastes.

"A star can have simple tastes," runs a slogan Papin has been repeating for weeks on French television in a slick advertisement selling disposable Tasors.

"I will never change because I will always remember that I used to earn 4,000 francs (\$730) a month," said Papin, whose mother works at a supermarket checkout. Thanks to their inspirational

scorer, Marseille established themselves as arguably the best side in Europe by eliminating formidable AC Milan of Italy in the European Cup in March. "It was fantastic," Papin said.

"Nobody thought we could do it but we knew." The dream ended in Bari in May with Marseille's European Cup final defeat on penalties by

Red Star. "I don't want to watch that match again," Papin said. "Our dream was spoilt, and the rest of the season with it."

But worse was still to come. Before a league match at St. Etienne last month Papin was struck by a beer bottle as he got off the players' coach. St. Etienne doctors and club President Andre Laurent later accused him of having feigned injury.

"How could I do such a thing?" Papin said. "It was just disgusting. I couldn't stand it because it was my honesty that was put in doubt. Football will never mean the same to me."

SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

Goalkeeper Higuita to leave Valladolid

VALLADOLID, Spain (R) — Colombia's colourful World Cup goalkeeper Rene Higuita, famous for his forays into midfield, said Sunday he was leaving Real Valladolid because he had not adjusted to Spanish soccer. "I'm going because I haven't performed as well as many people were expecting, myself included," the long-haired Higuita told reporters after Sunday's 2-2 home draw with Tenerife in the Spanish first division. Valladolid's poor season — they are two from bottom with only three wins in 15 matches — has led to speculation over the future of all four of their Colombians, including midfielders Carlos Valderrama and Leonel Alvarez and coach Pacho Maturana. All three players are going to Colombia for the Christmas bolidays but Higuita, who has one of the worst records with 25 goals conceded this season, will not be coming back.

Malta holds Greece to 1-1 draw

VALLETTA (R) — Soccer Minnows Malta picked up only their second point as they held Greece 1-1 at home in their final European Championship Group 6 qualifier. The Maltese, whofinished bottom of the group won by European champions the Netherlands, were on course for a rare win when Stefan Sultana seized on an error by Greek goalkeeper Georgis Plitsis to score in the 42nd minute. But Greece, lacking several experienced players, drew level through substitute Georgis Marinakis in the 67th minute. Greece finished third in the group.

Wilander to skip Australian open

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Former World No. 1 Mats Wilander, who had knee surgery in July, will not play in the Australian Open on Jan. 13-26 and may retire from tennis. "I haven't trained in the last couple of weeks," Wilander said in a Swedish radio interview. "I don't think I'll play again until the European clay court season starts in the spring. "But I haven't made a final decision. If I play again in the spring, I'll enter a small tournament." The 28-year-old Swede, who was injured at Queen's Club before Wimbledon, completed three legs of the Grand Slam in 1988, outlasting Ivan Lendl in the U.S. Open and was briefly ranked No. 1 in the world. Wilander, who has dropped out of the top 100 on the ATP Tour computer rankings, was tied with Lendl for most Grand Slam singles title (seven) in the 1980s. He won the French Open and Australian Open three times. His last tournament victory came in Itaparica, Brazil, a year ago.

Wheaton, Fernandez withdraw from team

PERTH, Australia (AP) — Grand Slam cup winner David Wheaton and teammate Mary Joe Fernandez have withdrawn from the U.S. team competing in the Hopman Cup Team Tennis Tournament, organisers said. Wheaton and Fernandez had to drop out because of unspecified injuries, the organisers said. The pair will be replaced by Derrick Rostagno and Amy Frazier, they said. Rostagno is ranked 13th in the world and Frazier is 27th. The U.S. team remains third-seeded for the tournament, behind the German combination of Boris Becker and Steffi Graf and the Spanish brother-sister pairing of Emilio Sanchez and Aranxta Sanchez-Vicario. The Hopman Cup is a 12-nation exhibition event that features men's and women's singles and mixed doubles contests. The tournament is to be played at the Perth Superdrome from Dec. 27 to Jan. 3 and is one of a number of warm-up events for the Australian Open, which begins Jan. 13 in Melbourne.

Weber 1st in Paris-Cape Town prologue

Rouen, France (R) — Germany's Erwin Weber, driving a Mitsubishi Pajero, won the four kilometres prologue to the Paris-Cape Town Rally Sunday. Finland's Ari Vatanen, favourite to win the 25-day, 12,472 kms haul, came second in the shakedown test to decide the running order for Monday's official start. Vatanen, in a Citroen ZX, clocked four minutes one second, just one second behind Weber. After travelling south through France followed by a ferry crossing of the Mediterranean, the 340-plus competitors face their first serious action Thursday with a 651 kms desert haul from Misratah to Sirte in Libya.

Osoro heads Kenyan athletics sweep

MOL, Belgium (R) — Ondoro Osoro led a Kenyan sweep of the first four places in a Grand Prix cross-country. Osoro, overall winner of last year's inaugural series, led virtually throughout. He finished 100 metres clear of World Championship bronze medallist Simon Karori. The pair staged a one-two triumph in the opening race of the series in Bolbec, France, on Dec. 1. Francesco Panetta, running his first cross-country following a suspension by his Italian Federation, headed the European challenge in sixth place. Four-times world champion John Ngugi of Kenya signalled his return to form in ninth spot. Ireland's Cathriona McKiernan also made it two in a row in the women's section after pulling away from Belgian Veronique Collard 400 metres from the line.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY DECEMBER 24, 1991 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Unwise, sudden and dramatic changes that for the most part are not beneficial put an unlikely slant on this special holiday evening as the Moon squares Venus and Pluto ...

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You have much to do in preparation for tomorrow and to get your residence in good condition to receive the relatives that you do

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You have a considerable amount of charm now and you will need it to maintain control of your nerves especially during the next few

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) There are a number of acquaintances and close friends who like to be closer to you and regard you as congenial companions especially

has a considerable amount of influence in the world of outside activity and get him on your side in some ber brolecr LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You now can get a whole new inspiration to gain your aspirations and

particularly if you will study those

outlets that mean a great deal to

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to

July 21) Look to that person who

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Whatever you would like to do that means getting out of your own little rut is just great so lose no time but let those about see you value their fresh ideas.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Now you can see clearly what you need to do in order to get those duties attended to that are at present impending upon your de-

sire for new outlets. SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You have a partner with very definite views and its up to you to show you are anxious to get along better with him by showing you have a cooperative attitude.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You have many tasks to do in preparation for tomorrow and if you are enthusiastic about them you can have a great

time with close friends. CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Look to those whom you regard as your truly compatible pals and go along with the pleasures and entertainments that they have planned for you.

AOUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Now you find that your interest in matters beneath you own roof can be expressed and you can gain the approval of your own family by consulting with them. PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You have lots of chances now to get everything of a regular nature so arranged that your days ahead will flow much more easily

and happier.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris HARRIS "Like the new shirt I bought

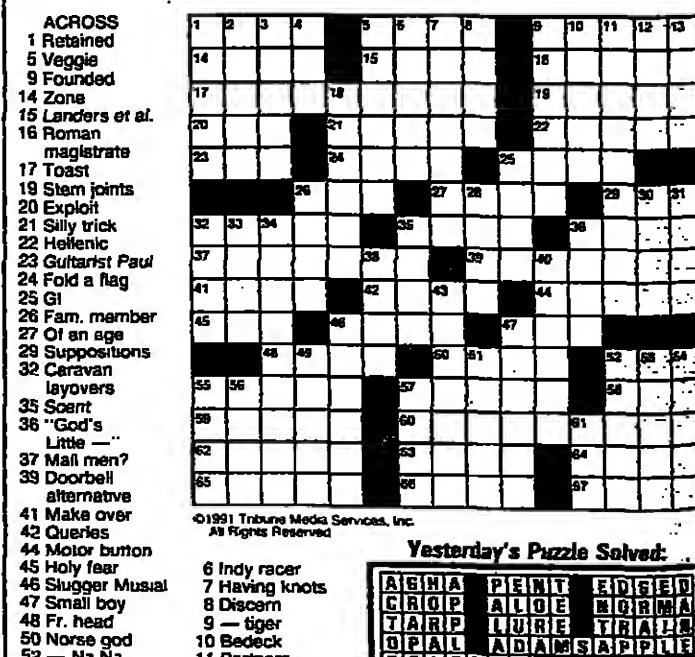
for you?"

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Soon time for lunch...-Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words. one who **UNHAM** 100' Bears Made Conces on LOBOD TUSJAD A COWPOKE WHO'S ALWAYS WATCHING THE CLOCK GENERALLY REMAINS THIS. **VOCENX** Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as sug-gested by the above cartoon. Print answer here: Jumbles: PRIZE BRAVE VIRTUE CAVORT Answer. The snob had a high-class education, which is why he never told a "lie"—but he would

THE Daily Crossword by Hank Harrington

frequently do this-"PREVARICATE"



10 Bedeck 11 Partners 12 Gen. Robt. -13 Roll-top 18 Dunderheaded 25 Salt's story 58 Children's game 26 Utah's flower 28 Korean soldiers 30 Loose 31 Sp. painter 32 Gumbo basia 33 Over

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59 Wipe out

63 Sharpen

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57 Tennis name 3 81 Beginning

leg. It's an old injury." "The economic situation is the IOC, the Ukrainian Informa-

ness early this month.

BRUEHL, Germany (AP) — Heinz Guenthardt is the new coach of Steffi Graf, the No. 2 woman tennis players in the world, her father and manager Peter Graf announced. Guenthardt, former Swiss Davis Cup coach, will travel with Graf to Australia after Christmas. Graf will join Boris Becker in the Hopman Cup in Perth and will then go to Melbourne for the Australian Open, Peter Graf said. Graf parted company with Czechoskovak coach Pavel Slozil in November, following a five-year partnership.

Graf hires Guenthard as new coach

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH £1991 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

ALL THE TRICKS East-West vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH ♠ A J 8 7 5 3 2 TAKA 10 9 5 **♣** Void WEST EAST ? Q 10 3 ♥J9754 **★**KJ743 **★**AQ6 SOUTH **9862**

109852 The bidding: South West North East 3 💠 20 5 NT Pass Pass 7 Pass Pass Pass Pass Opening lead: Seven of \Diamond There are players who have never

bid and made a grand slam, some because of a reluctance to risk the considerable bonus awarded a small slam, others because they never held the cards. Grand slams, however, are not that uncommon, but to bid and make a grand slam after your opponents have opened the bidding is a rare bird indeed.

South's two diamonds was a weak jump overcall. Usually, this action is taken with a six-card suit, but at this vulnerability it is not unknown for practitioners to take some liberties. North thought it highly likely

that South held no more than one spade, and decided to play a grand slam if partner held both the king and queen of diamonds. Five no

trump was the Grand Slam Force, asking partner to bid the grand with two of the three top honors, and South dutifully obliged. East's dou-ble was more a matter of high dudgeon than any conviction that the slam could be defeated. Since it was obvious that North-South were bidding on distribution

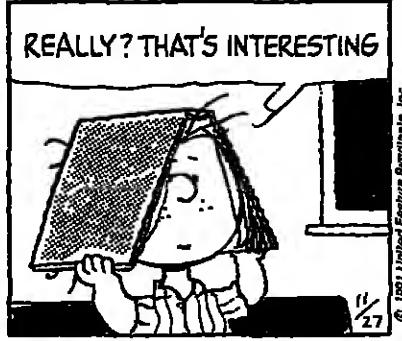
rather than power, West led a trump in an effort to cut down on possible ruffs. It was an intelligent choice, but not enough to defeat the Declarer won with dummy's nine

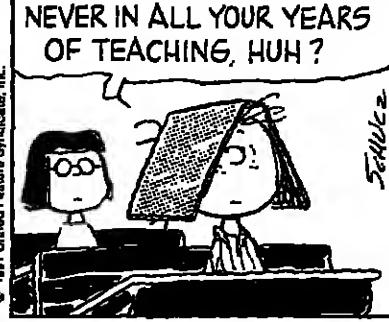
as East followed, and immediately ruffed a spade high. A heart to the king was followed by another spade ruffed high, and the eight of diamonds was overtaken with the ten to permit declarer to ruff a spade with the king of trumps as West discarded a heart.

All of dummy's spades were now established. Declarer crossed to the table with a club ruff, cashed the ace of trumps to draw the last trump and the ace of spades to remove the defenders' last card in that suit. Dummy was left with nothing but winners and the doubled grand slam had rolled home with only 22 highcard points in the combined holding.

Peanuts







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1.8580	1.8620
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1.3225	1.3275
	1 .8580 1 .8580 1 .5359 1 .3642 5 . 2499 127 .53

brockrescy luterest Rates			Date:	23/12/1991
Carrency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	4.75	4.25	4.12	4.25
Sterling Pound	10.93	10.81	10.65	10.56
Deutsche Mark	9.75	9.75	9.5 5	9.56
Swiss Franc	8.50	8.57	8.37	8.10
French Franc	10.06	13.06	10.06	9.93
Japanese Yen	6.06	5. 9 3	5.60	5.37
European Currency Unit	10.08	10.62	10.50	10.31

Precions Metals			Date: 2	3/12/1991	
Metal	USD/Oz	JD/G⊞°	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	53.35	6.80	Silver	3.87	0.084

	Date	: 23/12/1 99
Сагтевсу	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6760	0.6780
Sterling Pound	1.2591	1.2654
Dentsche Mark	0.4421	0.4445
Swiss Franc	J.4975	0.5000
French Franc	0.1294	ð.1500
Japanese Yen®	0.5303	0.5330
Dutch Guilder	0.3916	0.3936
Swedish Krona	0.1209	0.1215
Itolian Lira*	0.0583	0.0586
Belgian Franc	0.02135	0.02146

Per 196 Other Currencies	Date	e: 23/12/1 9 91
Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.7640	1.7720
Lebanese Lira*	0.0765	0.0775
Saudi Riyal	0.1799	0.1806
Knwaiti Dinar		
Qatari Riyal	0.1832	0.1840
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2200
Omani Riyal	1.7305	1.7390
UAE Dirham ,	0.1832	0.1840
Greek Drachma*	0.3735	0.3755
Cyprict Pound	1.5280	1.5390

CAE Indices for Amman Pinancial Market:

December 31, 1990 = 100

Index	21/12/1991 Close	22/12/1991Close
All-Share	130.18	129.61
Banking Sector	107.34	106.67
Insurance Sector	128.45	128.64
Industry Sector	164-03	163.63
Services Sector	143.86	743.34

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

one ounce of gold	359.00/359.50	U.S. dollars
	5.9250/9300	Danish crowns
•	6.0000/1000	Norwegian crowns
	5.5660/5760	Swedish crowns
	127.20/30	Japanese yen
	1150/1151	Italian lire
· · ·	5.1900/2000	French francs
	31.24/29	Belgian francs
-	1.3523/33	Swiss francs
•	1.7115/25	Dutch guilders
	1.5195/5205	Deutschemarks
one U.S. dollar	1.1566/71	Canadian dollar
me. Sterling	1.8710/20	U.S. dollars

U.S. survey shows food, drink and tobacco industries leading in profits

NEW YORK (R) — Stockholders of food, beverage and tobacco companies earn returns on their investments that are almost twice the median for all industries, Forbes magazine said Sun- cent.

The financial magazine said companies such as Coca-Cola Co. and General Mills brought shareholders an average return of 20 per cent over the last five years, beating all other industries for the

second year in a row. Those companies showed a return on equity of 17 per cent for the latest 12 months, the report

The magazine ranked 1,180 American companies in 21 industries according to their five-year and 12-month average returns on

dustry — manufacturers of personal products such as razors. apparel and toys — was the runner-up, with a five-year average return on equity of 18 per

The health industry, including pharmaceuticals companies and health care providers, placed third at 17.9 per cent. The sector was number one throughout the

The study found the median 12-month return on shareholders' equity in all industries dropped to 9.9 per cent, compared with 12.1 per cent last year. It was the first time the figure has fallen below 10 per cent since 1972, the magazine said.

Ranked individually. Holly Corp, a small petroleum refining company based in Dallas, was The consumer nondurables in- ranked the most profitable U.S.

company. Forbes noted that Holly shareholders got an average return of 68.3 per cent over the last five years.

La Gear, last year's firstranked company, slipped to fifth place after failing to make a profit in the latest 12-month period.

Some of the other profitable companies included Microsoft Corp, Nike Inc, Harley-Davidson and Philip Morris.

King World Productions ranked first in terms of efficiency, which Forbes based on profits and sales per employee and debt leveis.

King World, which distributes Syndicated Television, earned almost as mush as the ABC television network last year, with fewer than 500 employees on its payroll, according to the report.

ign countries and break out of the

international isolation caused by

its diplomatic rivalry with China.

reserves would continue to in-

crease early next year but the

pace could slow because of an

expected rise in imports to fuel

Central bank officials said the

Taiwan currency reserves hit record \$80 billion

TAIPEI (R) — Taiwan's foreign currency reserves, the world's largest, have soared to a new record of about \$80 billion and are still rising, central bank officials have said.

"They are climbing quite rapidly and could hit \$81 billion by the end of this year," one said.

The reserves, which stood at \$72.44 billion at the end of last year, are being swelled by Taiwan's huge trade surplus and earnings from interest. Central bank intervention in

the foreign exchange market to slow a rise in the Taiwan dollar has also boosted the reserves, economists say.

Economic officials say the reserves will help Taiwan to finance imports of technology and machinery for an ambitious sixyear, \$300 billion economic development plan that started this

Privately, they also say the size of the reserves is helping Taiwan gain more recognition from fore-

Hanoi gives Vietnamese wider work opportunities

HANOI (R) — Vietnam, in an said. effort to cope with unemployment and earn more hard currency, has issued its first government regulation allowing workers to negotiate their own overseas labour contracts.

The regulation said workers could seek jobs abroad as individuals or in work teams, could transfer earnings home and would not pay more than 30 per cent of their salaries as state tax. the Vietnam News Agency (VNA) has said.

"According to the regulation, hard currency for the country," it ployment at 20 per cent.

Vietnam has sent workers in the past to the Soviet Union and eastern Europe to repay trade credits, but tens of thousands have come home in recent years and joined the ranks of the unem-

VNA said local workers could go abroad under agreements signed by Hanoi and other governments, by local and foreign companies or by the workers themselves with local or foreign

According to official figures, sending Vietnamese employees nearly six per cent of Vietnam's abroad is a measure to resolve the 40-million strong labour force is job problem, help them make unemployed. But some Western money and increase revenue in economists estimate urban unem-

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

BOMBAY — A bullish wave swept the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) ahead of the end of calendar 1991. The BSE index leapt 41.84 points, or 2.24 per cent, to 1,915.12.

FRANKFURT — Share prices gently drifted to another lower close before a three-day holiday break. The 30-Share Dax Index finished 3.7 points lower at 1,539.62 after meandering in a five-point range.

ZURICH — Shares closed steady to slightly lower in very thin pre-holiday trading. The All-Share Swiss Performance Index shed one point to close at 1,015.6.

PARIS — A rise in French official interest rates, although widely expected, dragged the bourse to its lowest close in more than 10 months in quiet, pre-holiday trade. The CAC-40 Index fell 14.93 points, or 0.91 per cent, to 1,633.7.

LONDON — The market shrugged off alarm that the Bank of England might boost interest rates to cut sharp early losses and close just a bit lower. The 100-share FTSE Index, extending a recent slump, finished 12.7 points lower at 2,345.4.

NEW YORK — U.S. blue chips rose to new session highs in late morning trading after positive sentiment over the Federal Reserve's interest rate cut wiped out early losses. The Dow 30 average was up 9.84 points at 11.55 a.m. (1655 GMT).

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Egypt announces plans to reform public sector

CAIRO (R) - Egypt announced details Monday of plans to reform its vast and inefficient public sector, the heart of a programme agreed with the World Bank to transform the country into a free market economy.

After nearly 40 years of state control of the economy, public sector firms employ more than a million people and account for over half the gross domestic pro-

The semi-official newspaper Al Ahram quoted Planning Minister Kamal Ganzouri as saying reforms included selling the state's share in 245 joint public/ private sector ventures, privatising some "small or non-essential" public sector assets, and encouraging state firms to rent idle plants to private enterprise.

Mr. Ganzouri gave no commitment to privatise 393 companies at present wholly owned by the state and he said the government would keep full ownership of public utilities and military industries on the grounds that they were "strategic."

World Bank sources said Egypt's profitable oil industry was excluded.

But Mr. Ganzouri said public sector companies would be free to sell shares and raise capital in other ways from investors.

He said public assets would be sold to the private sector "both local and foreign" and a Western economist said recently-passed laws placed no restriction on forethe economic development plan. I ign investment in Egyptian

Kamal Ganzouri

businesses.

The plans for public sector reform are part of a far-reaching programme of economic change agreed last month with the World Bank, help ease the transition.

Before the agreement could be signed and the first half of the loan released, Egypt had to pass a new public sector law and issue regulations detailing how it would be implemented.

To obtain the second half of the loan next July, holding companies independent of the government must be set up to own the public sector businesses, and two thirds of the businesses must be reconstituted as subsidiaries of the holding companies.

Other parts of the programme include liberalising prices, freeing foreign trade and clearing away bureaucratic restrictions on pri-

The programme dovetails with tough disciplines which Egypt has agreed with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) with the aim of providing a more stable climate for economic growth.

Egyptian and foreign economists say many questions remain about public sector reform.

Failure to appoint a minister in charge of the changes, a key provision of the new public sector law, reflects uncertainty in the government. Economists said Prime Minister Atef Sedki took the job himself to delay the sensitive step of setting up a new, independent power centre to drive change forward.

One leading Egyptian economist, who preferred not to be named, said nothing short of full privatisation would work and listed three shortcomings of the government's plans.

He said private investors would not put money into businesses in which the state still owned majority control, they would baulk at a requirement to distribute 10 per cent of profits to workers and they would not accept a requirement that workers should make up half the board of directors.

Another prominent Egyptian economist. Hazem Al Beblawi of the Export Development Bank of Egypt, said public sector reform could not sensibly start until laws on private property and commercial contracts had been clarified, the tax system simplified and higher standards set for auditors.

British trade deficit widens

LONDON (R) — Britain's trade gap widened in November despite a recession which should in theory sap demand for imports, government statistics showed Monday.

The November current deficit was £587 million (1.1 billion) last month after £561 million (\$1.05 billion) in October.

But some economists were encouraged by a tiny 1.2 per cent rise in November import values, seeing a hint of some recovery in domestic demand from lows reached in the worst of the reces-

The data offered scant Christmas cheer to Conservative Prime Minister John Major, who must call a general election next year.

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ITALIAN/SPANISH SHOES LADIES/GENTS/GIRLS

The pound, on a downward curve after the German central bank raised its interest rates last week, was further joited by the trade figures. It fell almost 1.5 pfennings to 2.8395 marks.

Markets were on edge for the Bank of England to raise British interest rates to defend the pound in the European community exchange rate mechanism (ERM)

currency grid. In the event, the bank left base lending rates unchanged at 10.5 per cent Monday but fear of a rate rise gripped the stock exchange, which was down 23.6 points to

2,334,5 by midday. Such a rise could stop a tenuous rebound from the yearlong recession and hurt millions

of voters who have monthly mortgage (home loan) repayments to

Mr. Major's Conservatives

have been running level with or

just behind the opposition Labour Party in opinion polls for several months. Last week, his government introduced emergency relief measures for people who cannot pay their

mortgage bills.

Some analysts wondered if a rate rise would do much to help the pound. The Conservatives are regarded as pro-business and anything appearing to damage their election hopes might be seen ase

bad for the currency. Monday's figures showed the deficit on trade — excluding socalled "invisibles" like bank and insurance transfers — more to £881 million (\$1.64 billion) from £861 million (\$1.60 billion) in October.

Underlying exports have fallen 1.5 per cent in the last three months, while imports have risen by 0.5 per cent.

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Gorbachev doubts new commonwealth can survive

ROME (Agencies) - Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev said in an interview broadcast Monday he did not believe the new Commonwealth of Independent States formed by nearly all the Soviet republics would sur-

Interviewed by Italian radio, Mr. Gorbachev also suggested he still controlled the Kremlin nuclear weapons button.

Mr. Gorbachev accused Russian President Boris Yeltsin, the driving force behind the new commonwealth, of being undemocratic and repeated calls for a final session of the Supreme Soviet to declare the Soviet Union dead.

Asked if he considered himself the head of the opposition to Mr. Yeltsin, he said:

"I don't believe in this new community. I believe it cannot survive. It will not manage to create the mechanisms of coordination. I think it will lack agreement and the normal functioning of institutions, which is what we need now."

But he said he would not lead active opposition to the commonwealth for fear that this could cause more harm.

Eleven Soviet republics formed the new Commonwealth of Independent States at a meeting in the Kazakh capital of Alma-Ata Saturday and told Gorbachev that the Soviet Union and his job no longer existed.

They postponed until Dec. 30 a decision on who will control the Soviet nuclear arsenal, appointing Soviet Defence Minister Yevgeny Shaposhnikov temporary armed forces chief until that date, when republican leaders will meet to set up a permanent structure.

In the interview — taped Satur-

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies)

— Right-wing extremists in South

Africa are plotting to kill Presi-

dent F.W. de Klerk and ANC

leader Nelson Mandela, police

containing their names." Law

And Order Mini ry spokesman

Craig Kotze told reporters. "We

are taking the threat of right-wing

terrorism very seriously."

there were conditions.

It was North Korea's first offi-

the peninsula's nuclear arms race.

nuclear weapon, and the issue is

aggravating attempts to reduce

lingering cold war tensions be-

tween the heavily armed Koreas.

The signing of safeguards

would be the first step towards

allowing inspections of suspected

nuclear arms facilities and other

parts of the North's nuclear

The North Korean statement

demanded that Washington con-

programme.

"We are aware of a hit list

said Monday.

De Klerk on hit list

N.Korea announces intention

to sign nuclear safeguards

day in the Kremlin while the Alma-Ata meeting was in progress — Mr. Gorbachev was asked: "Do you still have the briefcase with the button for the nuclear command?

He answered: "In my briefcase there are many things that you should not know about. There are always things that it is better not to know. It is probable, however, that the atomic briefcase, which weighs a kilogramme and a half, is still with me."

the new commonwealth, Mr. Gorbachev said: "The greatest dangers are born of the divisions of the country and I, as president, must react.

Referring to his opposition to

"This is my political position and my conviction. But since the Supreme Soviets of the republics have decided to (to go their own way) I don't think that I should counterpoise my convictions in this difficult situation, with the risk of definitely dividing socie-

Mr. Gorbachev contested the republics' declaration that the Soviet Union was dead, saying only the now-defunct Supreme. Soviet could make such a deci-

"It is not reasonable to think that someone arrives, and declares that the Supreme Soviet has been liquidated, the Kremlin and all its possessions are nationalised," he said.

"Is it not indicative that the new personalities do not answer to anyone? Is this not shameful for our democratic process?"

"I think that a final session of the Supreme Soviet should necessarily be held... and it will be the (Supreme) Soviet that will declare the end of the existence of the Soviet Union."

Of Mr. Yeltsin and his follow-

He said the start of talks on a

non-racial constitution over the

weekend appeared to have spur-

red white extremists opposed to

Right-wing groups have been

biamed for five bomb attacks in

recent days, most aimed at black

or multi-racial targets. No one

was wounded in the attacks but

extensive damage was caused.

political reform into action.

ers, Mr. Gorbachev said: "For me, they have poisoned the air. They have humiliated me. I can be humiliated." Mr. Gorbachev said the events

leading to formation of the commonwealth were not a coup, as some people had suggested. But he said they were unconstitution-

"I don't think this is a coup. I'm just saying that the process of transition has to follow the constitational course. I told Mr. Yeltsin: "If you are democrats, if you are authentic reformers you must always act according to the laws and rules, otherwise people will ask if you are nothing but street delinquents,"' Mr. Gorbachev

In a separate development, rebel trops seeking to oust a president they call dictatorial pummeled Georgia's parliament building with rocket and machine-gun fire Monday, stepping up a fierce power struggle in the Caucasus nation.

Georgia is the only former Soviet republic, apart from the Baltics, that has refused to join the new commonwealth. Fighting by forces vying for control of the republic broke out Sunday in Tbilisi, its capital.

Death toll estimates varied, but Mirab Kvitashivili, Georgia's deputy health minister, said at least 18 people had been killed and 140 wounded.

The embattled president, Zviad Gamsakhurdia, was reported hiding Monday in the basement of the parliament building. Late Sunday, he rejected opposition calls for his resignation and an offer of safe passage out of Georgia.

Mr. Gamsakhurdia, a former political dissident, has been his power base erode since May



Mikhail Gorbachev

when he won a landslide victory in Georgia's first direct presidential election. Critics accuse him of closing down newspapers, denying the opposition access to television and refusing to release political prisoners.

The state-run Georgian National Information Agency reported Monday that 50 people were hurt in the fighting but claimed the situation "was under the control of the president."

In Moscow Mr. Yeltsin met Monday with Mr. Gorbachev to discuss the transition of power after Saturday's formation of the commonwealth, said Nikolai Portugalov of Mr. Gorbachev's press

In an apparent reference to Mr. Gorbachev's impending resignation, Mr. Portugalov said the two presidents were discussing "the time of the event that everyone is expecting."

Mr. Gorbachev has said that he would make a decision on his political future after receiving the documents from the commonwealth meeting in the Kazakhstan capital Alma-Ata.

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)

— Jean-Bertrand Aristide accepted the senate's choice of the Communist Party leader to be prime minister, breaking a deadlock in talks over Mr. Aristide's return to power, officials said

But the camp of one candidate for the post disputed the claim, and the deposed president, Mr. Aristide, was not immediately available for comment.

Senate President Dejean Belizaire said Communist Party leader Rene Theodore would head a new government that would prepare for Mr. Aristide's return. He gave no indication when that

LONDON (R) — Suspected Irish

to shut London's underground

rail system on Monday, creating

chaos for half a million rush hour

under a seat in a train at Harrow-

On-The-Hill. Police said nobody

was hurt and the network was

partially reopened after three

The police did not immediately

blame Irish Republican Army

(IRA) guerrillas who are fighting

to end British rule in Northern

lysed London's above-ground

British Rail commuter network

But last Monday the IRA para-

hours following searches.

One incendiary bomb went off

commuters.

Ireland.

The announcement after two days of negotiations between Augusto Ramirez Ocampo, envoy of the Organisation of American States (OAS), and Haitian political and military leaders.

Aristide accepts choice of new premier

Mr. Ramirez Ocampo said Mr. Aristide authorises him announce that he would accept Mr. Theodore as prime minister "if it is the will of the parliamentary majority, for it is thus that he interprets the will of the Haitian

Mr. Theodore, a moderate, is widely respected by Haitian politicians. Mr. Aristide previously had been reluctant to

Firebombs bring chaos to London

accept the politician, who accused Mr. Aristide of abuse of power and encouraging mob violence during his seven months in office as Haiti's first democratical-

ly elected president. Victor Benoit, a leader of a pro-Aristide coalition and possible choice for prime minister, said he had "strong doubts" that Mr. Aristide acceded to Mr. Theodore's selection.

"Until we hear directly from the mouth of President Aristide that he has chosen Theodore and not Victor Benoit, we of the National Front for Change and Democracy consider Benoit to be Aristide's choice," Mr. Benoit himself said.

unite Ireland. It does not want to

be dragged into sectarian revenge

Quick to distance itself from

the weekend shootings, it took

the unusual step of issuing a

detailed statement in Dublin dis-

sociating itself from the blood-

been a series of killings and

attempted killings which serve no

purpose other than to direct

Renegade Republican splinter

groups, which the IRA has urged

several times to disband, were

blamed for three of the killings —

two customers shot in a Belfast

bar and a teenage student killed

central role in this conflict."

killings.

Bonn recognises Croatia, Slovenia paign also aroused concern that BONN (R) — Germany formally German consuls-general in Ljubl-Germany — since unification last jana and Zagreb would deliver letters of recognition Monday

Several EC members argued

ing the Yugoslav war to the cen-

tral republic of Bosnia-

Herzegovina where Croats, Serbs

"We went along with Bonn in

the end just to preserve some sort

of foreign policy unity, not be-

cause we thought this was a good

policy," a West European diplo-

The unusually assertive cam-

and Muslims live.

mat in Bonn said.

recognised the breakaway Yugoslay republics of Croatia and Slovenia Monday, climaxing a von Weizsaecker. campaign that has raised questions about Bonn's assertive role in European politics.

Germany will open diplomatic its determined drive to win support for Slovenia and Croatia, relations with the two republics which declared independence on Jan. 15, the European Comfrom Yugoslavia last June. munity's (EC) deadline for recog-Thousands of people have been nising all republics which live up killed since then in fighting in

to an EC good conduct list. Croatia between Croatian forces "In the view of the German and the republic's Serb minority, government, the Republics of backed by Serbia and the Slovenia and Croatia fulfil the Serbian-led federal army. conditions defined by the European Community." the Foreign that recognition could not stop Ministry said in a statement the bloodshed and risked spreadannouncing the decision.

Under the EC conditions agreed in a compromise to preserve the facade of unity after long debates between Germany and more cautious members the republics must pledge to uphold democracy, respect human and minority rights and renounce the use of force to change bor-

The Foreign Ministry said the

year by far the largest and most powerful EC state — was flexing from German President Richard its muscles and defending German interest after decades of Germany came under heavy criticism from its EC partners for restraint.

Germans have generally welcomed Chancellor Helmut Kohi's support for the two republics, which they see as upstanding Roman Catholic nations frustrated in their drive for freedom by Europe's last Communist strongmen, the Serbs.

But influential newspapers have begun to criticise Bonn for pushing ahead too quickly and angering neighbours who recalled that Nazi Germany was the strongest supporter of Croatia's fascist state during World War II.

"If Bonn isn't playing power politics, what is it doing?" The Munich daily Sueddeutsche Zeitung asked.

"The march of German foreign policy has ended for the time being in a no-man's land between hope and fear," the weekly Die Zeit commented.

> Traffic cops say it with flowers

where he died in 1231.

Stolen jawbone of

returned to church

PADUA, Italy, (R) - A 13th

century Christian relic, the inter-

bone of orator-Saint Anthony

was returned to a church in the

day, two months after being

porth Italian town of Padua San La

stolen by masked bandits. Police

recovered the relic near Rome:

Fiuminico Airport Friday, Four

before it was apparently due to be

flown out of the country. Three

thieves took the relic in its 2014.

planted silver cup, inlaid with

rubies and sapphires and worth

around 100 million lire (\$80,600)

at gunpoint from the Basilica of

St. Anthony in October, Two

policemen carried the relic

through cheering crowds into the

church Sunday and a special mass

was conducted to celebrate in

safe return. St. Anthony, a Fran-

ciscan born in Lisbon in 1195, was

to bring sinners to their knees.

He spent many years in Padra,

famed for his gift of oratory said

Saint Anthony

WELLINGTON (R) - New Zealand Traffic Police, much maligned like their colleagues around the world, awarded carnations instead of tickets in motorists Monday as a way of thanking well-behaved drivers As a Christmas goodwill gesture, traffic officers stopped motorists and gave them a carnation. Senior Sergeant Paul Kennedy said: "Too often we are doing something about people who do things wrong on the road. Today's the day for those who are driving safely."

France relaxes christening rules

PARIS (R) — Antiquated French rules governing the names parents may give to their children are to be relaxed to cater for off-beat modern tastes and the population's more cosmopolitan make-up, government officials said Saturday. Legislation in force since the 1789 revolution had allowed civil registrars to reject names not taken from the "In the last 72 hours, there has calendar of Catholic saints or historical figures. The new rules, approved by the cabinet and still to be debated in parliament, are intended to take account of the preferences of atheist families or families of foreign extraction. Parents will be allowed to use any name which is not judged to make the child an object of ridicule. Adults with embarrassing names will find it easier to change them. The rules, drawn up by Junior Justice Minister Michel Sapin, also give children born out of wedlock the same rights of

Natalie Cole's mother couldn't be happier

inheritance as legitimate chil-

NEW YORK (AP) - Nazalie Cole's mother couldn't be happier about her daughter's success with an album of Nat King Cole standards. She just doesn't want to hear it. "I'm very happy about what it's done for her career and for my husband's," Maria Cole says in this Sunday's USA Weekend magazine. "But still, I don't like to listen to (Natalie's versions). I just feel that every thing belonged to him." Natalie's Unforgettable album, with 24 cuts of her late father's songs, hit No. 1 on billboard charts this year and has sold more than 3 million copies. Her mother's feelings ab out the album run so deep she broke down in the recording stidio when her 41-year-old daughter recorded her "duet" with Na King Cole on Unforgettable. Natalie's voice was added to befather's classic version of the song. "I could only stay 45 mi nutes," says Maria Cole, whose husband died in 1965. "It evokes such memories for me. I hope she

Florence bans daytime traffic

FLORENCE (R) - Plorence will be closed to private cars during the day throughout Jamiary in an attempt to combat worsening air pollution, a city spokesman said Sunday. The daily ban from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. due to start on Jan. 2, is the most drastic of anti-pollution measures taken by several Italian cities in recent days. Rome, Milan and Naples have operated a system of alternate licence plates this week -cars with odd-numbered plates being excluded one day and those with even numbers barred the next. Air pollution has been aggravated by cold, windless collditions and fog

1 Universities closed after Right-wing puts Mandela,

PHNOM PENH (R) — The Phnom Pehn government closed all universities and colleges in the Cambodian capital Monday after a weekend of violent protests that kiled three people, seriously injured dozens and delayed peace

"My government is afraid," an official said.

A student in front of the locked gates of Phnom Penh University guarded by four riot policemen, said: "They closed all the universities because they were afraid the students would strike."

The engineering, technical and economics schools were shut and the medical school in the city centre was empty.

The arrest of a student at the medical school Saturday morning touched off a series of violent confrontations between students and police. Streets echoed with gunfire.

The students, who had figured in some of last week's increasing-

striden anti-corruption protests, stormed a police station to free their colleague, fighting hand-to-hand with officers. Students hurled paving stones

In the afternoon students took over the main streets of the city, hurling stones at police, and in the evening attacked two police stations. It was then that the army was called out and the sound of

One student was shot in the chest as he and his comrades set fire to a police stat.on. Another civilian and a soldier died from gunshot wounds, doctors and

The government Sunday announced an 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. curfew. Gunfire was heard later

Namhong said protests would not | day charter flights.

by putting a small bomb on the track at Clapham, one of the world's busiest rail junctions. A firebomb also ignited this

Monday in a British Rail train at a depot. The authorities said it was a train used to operate an express service from London to Foreign Minister Hor | Stansted Airport, a base for boli-

Besides targetting the travel

firebombs in shops in recent weeks in a low-risk campaign to inflict economic pain on the Brit-About one million people

network, IRA cells active in

mainland Britain have placed

usually use the London underground railway - known as "the tube" — on working days, but officials said only about half that number had been expected to travei Monday. Many commuters have already begun Christmas attention away from Britain's

Meanwhile, for the IRA, the weekend carnage in Northern Ireland gave the worst possible message to the world — that the conflict in the British province is between Protestants and Catholics locked in sectarian warfare.

Five people died in a vicious tit-for-tar war between Protestants and renegade Republicans that appeared to herald a bloody Christmas of shootings of innocent civilians.

The Irish Republican Army Britain from the province and to full of Sunday drinkers.

trying to save his father from a gun attack. Protestant externists, who have already said they will not reciprocate if the IRA calls a Christmas ceasefire, retaliated by killing a

Catholic married to a Protestant (IRA) says it is fighting to oust and spraying bullets round a pub

Bush says 1991 was a year of mixed emotions

WASHINGTON (AP) - President George Bush says "the agony of a very slow economy' has made 1991 a year of mixed emotions after victory in the Gulf in Eastern Europe.

vice Channel.

Mr. Roh declared South Korea nuclear-free last week, in effect stating that U.S. nuclear warin the polls. heads had been removed. The

"Hearing only the words of the South Korean chief executive. one cannot properly understand if the nuclear weapons have been withdrawn or not," said the paragraph of the North Korean North Korean Foreign ministry

> "If it is true that U.S. nuclear weapons have been completely withdrawn from South Korea and nuclear weapons no longer exist there as (Rob) had announced, we welcome this," it

> Mr. Solarz, chairman of the House Subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs, was the first American politician to discuss nuclear issues with the North

> cerns escalated earlier this year. The United States has a longstanding policy of neither confirming nor denying the location of its nuclear weapons overseas. North and South Korea have been bitter rivals since their

peninsula was divided at the end

of World War II in 1945.

war and the growth of democracy ly so." On other topics, Mr. Bush:

"Trying to cope with this economy is extraordinarily difficult," Mr. Bush told C-Span, the cable television industry's Public Ser-

But Mr. Bush, in an interview taped Friday and broadcast Sunday, cautioned critics not to count him out, despite his recent plunge

That decline has just gotten "the competitive juices" flowing, said Mr. Bush. "I like the combat."

Mr. Bush, who has already raised millions of dollars for his 1992 re-election race, said: "Tve been underestimated before and they ought not to underestimate me again because I'm going to take my case out to the American people, get this economy turned around and I'll be ready." The president described 1991

as "a year of mixed emotions. ...A year of up and down." Dramatic changes abroad made this "a more peaceful world for our kids to grow up in," he said, adding that there was also "the agony of a very slow economy at home that burt a lot of

good people." Mr. Bush called the Federal Reserve Board's 1 percentage point cut in the discount rate, to 3.5 per cent — its lowest level in 27 years — "very good news... which should have a stimulative

Mr. Bush said he relishes the challenges of the presidency. "Trying to cope with this eco-

nomy is extraordinarily difficult," he said. "I'm determined to succed, but I learned firsthand in 1991 that the buck does stop there on that desk — and proper-

— Said he wouldn't trade the American system for Britain's parliamentary government. "I count by blessings for the fact I don't have to go into that pit that John Major stands in,

nose-to-nose with the opposition, all yelling at each other.' — Crowed about his good

"Exercise is very important for me. ...I'm blessed with a tremendous amount of energy,"

"I love competitive sports," added the 67-year-old president. Camp David to whip up on the

"Wallyball" is volleyball played indoors on a racquetball court. And, the president vowed: "I'm not going to be driven off the golf course. ... I can do two things at once: Mind the country's business and then every once in a while, play golf."

Shrugged off New York. Gov. Mario Cnomo's decision to skip the Democratic presidential race. The other Democrats, Mr. Bush said, were never going to "roll over and play dead" for Mr.

"I respect his decision, And in spite of the fact we yell about each other from time to time, we get along all right," he said. — Said he likes frequent, infor-

have always been homeless, there even in affluent countries like

Meanwhile, two Democratic presidential aspirants charged Sunday that Mr. Bush has shirked responsibility and "is making the American people feel like

"Well. I think the president was in the driver's seat, and the thing that bothers me about it is the way he's denigrated the idea

President Bush is making the American people feel like losers, but we're not losers."

the ABC Network, and Mr. Kerrey by CBS. David Duke and Pat Buchanan are complaining that hostility to-

primary ballots. aren't generating much sympathy tion officials.

Mr. Buchanan, a conservative columnist and television commentator, claims he was squeezed off the Feb. 25 ballot in South Dakota by unfriendly state Re-

Mr. Duke, a Louisiana legisla-

tor, former Ku Klux Klan leader and neo-Nazi who unsuccessfully ran for governor and the U.S. Senate, has been denounced by Republican officials up to and including President Bush as a

Florida and Wisconsin.

In Michigan, Maryland and other states, party leaders have lost bids to keep Mr. Duke off the ballot but vowed to work hard for his defeat.

"In some states, party officials are breaking the law and in some other states, legislatures have passed iaws that are just blatantly unfair and unconstitutional," said Mark Ellis, a spokesman for Mr. Duke in Louisiana.

control. In America, we're moving toward this kind of system." Although Mr. Buchanan hasn't encountered the same concerted Republican effort to keep him off

"let's stop calling fouls and kicking guys out of the game. Let the boys play," Mr. Buchanan

"If I can find a couple of It's much better for the party," he

added.

ing out how to qualify for presidential primary ballots. Some states require petitions with a certain number of signatures. while some delegate the responsibility to party officials.

In some other states, only candidates who are seriously covered in the national news media can win a berth on the ballot. Candidates dénied a spot in

some primaries can usually force

their way onto the ballot by collecting enough petition signatures - a tactic Duke supporters are Party leaders at the state and national levels do little to disguise their contempt for Mr. Duke. "We don't call state party offi-

cials and tell them to try to keep

Duke off the ballot. They call

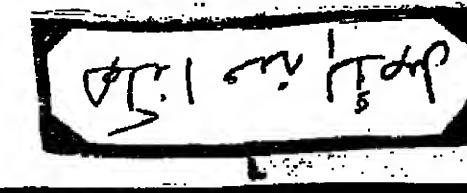
us," said B. Jay Cooper, a Re-

publican National Committee official. "In those states where they have the option of keeping Duke off the ballot, we're not dis-

couraging that," he said. "We've taken our position on Duke and on racism and anti-Semitism. The man is just an ugly man. We're going to be consistent in our position against him," be added.

But Mr. Cooper said the party is following a different approach with Mr. Buchanan and isn't encouraging party leaders to exciude him from any ballots. He's off the ballot in South Dakota because "he just missed the deadline," Mr. Cooper said.

National party leaders stress that while they don't put Mr. Buchanan in the same category as Mr. Duke, they're not about to make his challenge to Mr. Bush



firm the withdrawal of its nuclear weapons from South Korea and called for direct U.S.-North Korean talks on inspections. A U.S. congressman visiting Seoul after talks with North Korean leaders said Washington might accede to the North's demand to verify the withdrawal of nuclear weapons. Washington has in the past rejected direct talks with the North. South Korean officials said they were confused by a key announcement which seemed ambiguous. The North Korean Foreign Ministry statement said North Korea will sign a safeguards accord "on the premise" that the United States will confirm it has removed its nuclear arsenal from

the South. Officials said they were confused by the wording and unsure whether it alluded to more conditions. As international pressure has escalated on North Korea to sign the safeguards and allow inspections, the Communist nation has

The protracted delay has given the North more time to build a nuclear arsenal. U.S. officials

heaped on conditions for doing

"If the nuclear issue is not

SEOUL (AP) — North Korea resolved," U.S. Rep. Stephan J. Monday announced its intention Solarz told a news conference, "it to sign nuclear safeguard agree- could lead to grave consequments that could lead to outside ences. ... I hope I am wrong. The inspections, but the announce- clock is ticking. Time is running

ment was unclear as to whether out." Mr. Solarz said be spent more than seven hours last week with North Korean leaders, including Sung, and left "disturbed and

cial statement that it would sign 21/2 hours with President Kim II the safeguards, and South Korean officials said it appeared to be a positive step towards ending dismayed." "North Korea seems more interested in avoiding a satisfactory Seoul has said the North is resolution of the nuclear problem within a few years of developing a

than in facilitating one," Mr.

Solarz said. In talks with Mr. Solarz Monday, President Roh Tae-Woo rejected direct talks between North Korea and Washington on nuclear issues, Mr. Roh's security

adviser, Kim Chong-Hui, said. Mr. Solarz indicated that he might introduce a resolution in the U.S. Congress to bring pressure on North Korea, Mr. Kim

announcement had been aimed at prodding North Korea to allow

statement.

Korean leaders since nuclear con-

effect on the economy."

week of Cambodian protests | LONDON (R) — Suspected Irish guerrilla firebombs forced police

and police answered with volleys of gunfire over their heads.

heavy gunfire filled the night.

officials said.

need government permission.

always have been those hungry,

"I can't wait for Christmas Day at Marines up there with my three sons as the Bush wallyball team

goes back into action."

mai news conferences: "It lances the sores that build up if you're

— Called hunger in America tragedy," but said, "there

Gov. Bill Clinton of Arkansas. asked if he was not blaming the president for the state of the economy, replied:

of having a vision for the country. He has refused to accept any responsibility. Sen. Bob Kerrey of Nebraska said: "At the end of the cold war,

Mr. Clinton was interviewed by In a separate development.

ward their dark horse candidacies

from establishment Republicans

is keeping them off some state

Not surprisingly, their protests from party leaders or state elec-

publican leaders.

bigot and racist. Mr. Duke, who vowed to challenge Mr. Bush in all primaries but New Hampshire, is encountering Republican efforts to thwart his listing on ballots in Massachnsetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Oregon, Georgia,

"In Russia and Eastern Europe they just threw out a system where the party bosses have total

ballots, he's still protesting the

primaries where I can meet David Duke and demonstrate who is the amhentic conservative and who is bogus, I think that's much better.

State laws vary widely in spell- any easier.